

76-PAGE MAGAZINE TRIBUTE

QUEEN ELIZABETH II

1926 – 2022



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Devotion to duty

Thousands endure 24-hour queue to honour Queen's lifetime of service as King and his siblings stand vigil

By Hannah Furness ROYAL EDITOR

THEY face a 24-hour wait to pay their respects, but still they keep on coming. Undaunted, uncomplaining and dressed for duty, Queen Elizabeth II's people vowed to do her proud in their slow, shuffling procession to see her coffin lying in state.

At one point, in scenes that would delight observers of British eccentricity, there was a queue for the queue to get in the main queue. And by the evening, at 7.45pm, the patience of a lucky few was repaid in spectacular fashion, as they filed through Westminster Hall to find themselves joining the King and his family.

There, amid hundreds of members of the public who happened to be walking through at the same time, the King, Princess Royal, Duke of York and Earl of Wessex stood in silent tribute to their mother. Members of the public, dressed

variously in anything from formal black mourning clothes to T-shirts and anoraks, paused and bowed their heads to let them take position at four sides of the late Queen's coffin.

As the extended family, including the Tindall and Phillips daughters, watched from a platform, the four siblings clasped their hands and lowered their eyes for their 15 minutes of duty. The King blinked, as if remembering his loss all over again in the midst of a testing 10-day schedule of his own.

For the first time since the death of his mother, Prince Andrew was permitted to wear the military dress uniform of a Vice Admiral of the Navy, the only military rank he still holds. The King wore the uniform of the Admiral of the Fleet; Princess Anne as Colonel of the Blues and Royals in her specially adapted version of Mounted Review Order (Dismounted); and Prince Edward in No 1 Dress (Ceremonial) as Royal Colonel Wessex Yeomanry.

At 10pm last night, a member of the public reportedly charged at the Queen's coffin as it lay in state. The individual was allegedly taken to the floor by Met Police officers and arrested. The Met told ITV they "detained a man in

The King, the Princess Royal, the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex hold a vigil beside the coffin of their mother, as it lies in state on the catafalque in Westminster Hall

Westminster Hall following a disturbance. He was arrested for an offence under the Public Order Act and is currently in custody.

Earlier, Buckingham Palace had announced details of the late Queen's final journey to rest in Windsor, designed to allow as many people as possible the opportunity to say goodbye on Monday, the day of her funeral. The Queen's coffin will take the "long route" over a 25-mile, two-hour journey to allow millions of well-wishers to line the road sides.

Starting at Wellington Arch, the cortège will travel along the A4, A30 and the A308 to Windsor between 1pm and 3pm for the committal service followed by private burial.

The Government is drawing up plans to close the queue for Westminster Hall tomorrow morning, to allow it to finish by 6.30am on Monday when funeral preparations begin in earnest.

Tonight, a lucky few are expected to be filing through Westminster Hall as the Queen's grandchildren hold their own vigil; the first of its kind for a monarch lying in state. The Prince of Wales, Duke of Sussex, Princess Beatrice, Princess Eugenie, Peter Phillips, Zara Tin-

dall, Lady Louise Windsor and James, Viscount Severn will form their own silent guard for 15 minutes.

Last night, the King held a gathering of faith leaders in which he pledged to protect the multiple faiths of a diverse Britain "no less diligently" than Christianity as head of the Church of England, and promised to "protect the space for faith itself".

As the Royal family made a series of public appearances yesterday, the Prince of Wales spoke of his belief that his late grandmother would be "looking down" at her funeral service.

Visiting the Army Training Centre Pirbright in Surrey yesterday with the Princess of Wales, he spoke to Commonwealth troops preparing for the procession and empathised over the "lack of sleep" anyone had been getting.

One member of the New Zealand Defence Force said the Prince had told him "the Queen... would be interested in the detail of the soldiers, how the drill is carried out, its precision, our dress, things like that".

Meanwhile, the King was said to have expressed concerns about the cost of living crisis to Mark Drakeford.

The Welsh First Minister told Talk

'The Queen... would be interested in the detail of the soldiers, how the drill is carried out, its precision, our dress'

TV: "The King... mentioned the impact of the cost of living crisis here in Wales. He is concerned as to how people will manage through what is going to be a difficult winter."

Mourners coming to London are being offered the chance to sit or sleep in empty carriages at Charing Cross and Victoria stations before catching the first trains home. Heads of state are to be taken to Westminster Abbey by bus in a major security operation, with foreign dignitaries shuttled from the airport by an operator using Britain's "first and only" zero-emissions coaches.

The Metropolitan Police is staging the biggest operation in its history in the lead-up to the funeral, with 34 people arrested so far for a "range of offences".

Spirits remained high among the committed royalists still facing up to 24 hours waiting in a queue.

David Beckham, the former footballer, was spotted among them, waiting in what was nicknamed the "Elizabeth Line" before a second "queue for the queue" became the QEII.

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NEWS

Two police officers stabbed in London

A female police officer has been left with potentially life-changing injuries after she and a male colleague were stabbed in central London. They had been on patrol in the Leicester Square area early yesterday morning when they approached a man who was acting suspiciously. The man was subdued by other officers using Tasers, pepper spray and batons, and arrested. Both officers were taken to hospital where they were in a stable condition last night.

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WORLD

India rebukes Putin for Ukraine invasion

Vladimir Putin was yesterday publicly upbraided over his invasion of Ukraine by India's prime minister, who told him now "is not an era for war". Narendra Modi said he had "spoken to [Putin] on the phone" about the need to end the war, as the two met in Uzbekistan. Mr Putin replied that he "understood" Mr Modi's concerns and wished to end the war as soon as possible. It came as Ukraine struck Russia's headquarters in occupied Kherson with a missile attack during a meeting of top officials.

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BUSINESS

Energy discount for all firms planned

Businesses will be offered a blanket discount on energy bills to prevent a wave of bankruptcies under proposals being considered by Kwasi Kwarteng, the Chancellor, ahead of next week's mini-Budget. Officials are leaning towards a scheme in which companies get a fixed reduction to the rate they pay per kilowatt hour - a different mechanism to the one used for households, where the maximum that energy companies can charge is capped instead.

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SPORT

Moore: I hope Eddie knew that I loved him

Brian Moore today pays tribute to Eddie Butler, the "voice of rugby", who died this week aged 65. The former England hooker and *Daily Telegraph* columnist, who shared a commentary box with Butler for two decades, says he thought about writing a poem in the broadcaster's honour, "but immediately thought - what is the point in trying to out word a wordsmith?" Moore writes: "It is never the wrong time to say that you love somebody; I just hope he knew." Sport, page 1

Queen Elizabeth II 1926–2022

Wend it like Beckham... 2am kick-off

Former England captain and 'huge royalist' pays respects to 'special Queen on sad day'

By Robert Mendick CHIEF REPORTER

NO DOUBT David Beckham could have procured himself a VIP pass. But instead, the former England captain and multi-millionaire did what every other ordinary well-wisher wanting to pay their respects to the late Queen had to do: he queued. And queued. And queued.

At 3.18pm and after more than 13 hours, Beckham finally reached his goal, shuffling past the Queen's coffin in

Westminster Hall, where Her Majesty has been lying in state since Wednesday evening.

Beckham, agile at evading tackles in his playing days, thought he would dodge the worst of the Queue, by arriving at 2am yesterday. Only to discover, alas, that tens of thousands of other mourners had had the same idea.

The result was that the Queue never really diminished in the night – as organisers had hoped – and by mid-morning had steadily grown to the

point where it had to be closed to new arrivals. The Government called it "a pause".

In a bizarre twist – and perhaps this could only happen in queue-happy Britain – there then formed another queue to join the Queue. This second queue – and here it gets truly surreal – spawned a third queue to reach the second queue to reach the Queue.

Anybody confused by this – and who wouldn't be? – should feel sympathy at least for the tens of thousands of people desperately trying to see the late Queen lying in state before the cut-off time of 6.30am on Monday, the day of her state funeral.

Hundreds of thousands of people are

Below right, David Beckham said he had survived his 13-hour queue on 'Pringles, sherbert lemons, coffee, sandwiches and doughnuts'; left, Chelsea Pensioners outside the Houses of Parliament after paying their respects; bottom, the Royal family, including Zara Tindall's daughters Mia and Lena, at the vigil last night

set to be bitterly disappointed and will miss out. For those that persevere, Beckham's 13-hour wait will now seem like child's play.

By last night, the official time to reach the front was more than a full day.

The Government's live tracker declared last night: "Entry to the queue has resumed. Expected queuing time is over 24 hours."

The social media feed then added ominously: "Overnight temperatures will be cold."

A low of 7C (44F) was predicted.

Beckham, 47, dressed in fashionable cloth cap, overcoat, jacket, white shirt and black tie, can now count himself as one of the lucky ones to have made it to

the front. He had survived the ordeal on "Pringles, sherbert lemons, coffee, sandwiches and doughnuts".

"I thought by coming at 2am it was going to be a little bit quieter – I was wrong," Beckham told ITV News after successfully negotiating the Queue.

"Everybody had that in mind. Everybody wants to be here and part of the experience and celebrate what Her Majesty has done for us."

Beckham spoke with emotion about what the late Queen had meant to him.

He had, of course, met her on a number of occasions. "The most special moment," he said, was when receiving his OBE.

"I took my grandparents with me,

'The queue is full of people trying to photograph David Beckham and forgetting to move onward'



GRAHAM STONE/AVON; EDDIE MULHOLLAND FOR THE TELEGRAPH; TOM NICHOLSON/REUTERS

Honoured to watch my husband standing vigil by Queen's coffin

Lucy Denyer



My husband is, imperceptibly and infinitesimally, swaying. Backwards and forwards he goes. Gently, so, so gently. Blink and you'd miss it; to all intents and purposes he is standing stock still, eyes front, unsmiling, upright. You'd only catch the tiny movement if you were looking very intently. But then, I am looking very intently – because my husband is standing

guard at the foot of the late Queen's coffin, one of four watchers playing their part in this long vigil, the chance for the nation to pay their respects to their late beloved monarch before she is laid to rest on Monday. The rocking forwards and backwards from the heel to the ball of the foot keeps the blood flowing; stops him passing out. Watch carefully and they're all at it.

It is just after midnight and, outside, the shuffling queue of hundreds of thousands of people makes its patient way along the Thames, over Lambeth Bridge and into Victoria Tower Gardens and the, finally, to stream endlessly through Westminster Hall.

Suddenly comes the bang of sword on stone, the signal for the guard to change

Inside, under the bright lights hanging from the mediaeval beams, it is silent, bar the tapping of feet, the discreet click of an official photographer's lens and once, the wail of a baby.

Suddenly comes the bang of sword on stone, the signal for the guard to change. It is precisely 12.20am and the four on the corners swing their swords in a graceful arc in perfect time, before making their careful way down the steps of the dais on which the late Queen's catafalque stands.

They are ungainly as they march slowly out – their thigh-high boots, complete with spurs, are made for riding, not walking – yet still they are timeless.

Soothing, too; the endless river of people filing by the coffin. Most slow, some bow, others curtsey, some blow kisses. Many linger after they are militarily in time, clanking unsmilingly up the stone staircase, swords still aloft, to exit stage right, like so many toddlers climbing awkwardly up to their beds. My husband tells me afterwards that all he could think of, at this point, was not to trip, fall and become a global meme.

For all the pomp and ceremony, the clicking of heels and the raising of swords, the vigil itself is an honouring of the dead in a ceremony that would be recognised at almost any point in history, in even the smallest village in the farthest-flung corner of the earth. A vigil can at once be grand or simple, awe-inspiring or strangely intimate – or all of those things – and Queen Elizabeth II's is no exception. Ignore the velvet ropes and the electric lights, and all the anoraks, trainers and clutched plastic bags, and this could be a watch from another time; it is timeless.

Soothing, too; the endless river of people filing by the coffin. Most slow, some bow, others curtsey, some blow kisses. Many linger after they are

He tells me that, at this point, all he could think of was not to trip, fall and become a global meme

passed by, reluctant to leave this sanctuary that it has taken them so long to reach. Exhaustion is etched on faces; there is the odd dazed-looking child stumbling along between parents. Among this stream of awkward humanity, the officers on guard stand in marked contrast: statues, doing their duty. They have been practising all week: their entrances and exits, their synchronised sword drills run through at home in spare half hours with umbrellas. Standing orders have been dusted off, breastplates refitted, helmets adjusted, boots polished. I have seen the pomp and ceremony hundreds of times, yet never carried out so silently; there is no shouting of orders in here.

The sword bangs once more; it is time to leave. On top of the coffin, the Black Prince's Ruby suddenly flashes red. I pause, bow my head, say a prayer of thanks – for Her Majesty's life but also, in her death, to have been able to see this, to watch my husband carry out this enormous honour.

but star reaches his goal after 13 hours

who were the ones that really brought me up to be a huge royalist and a fan of the Royal family, and obviously I had my wife there as well," he recalled.

"To step up, to get my honour, but then also Her Majesty, to ask questions, to talk, I was so lucky that I was able to have a few moments like that in my life, to be around Her Majesty."

"Because we can all see with the love that has been shown, how special she is and how special she was and the legacy that she leaves behind. It's a sad day, but it's a day for us to remember the incredible legacy that she's left."

He had sung *God Save the Queen* before all of his 115 international matches, which he said "was something

that meant so much to us [footballers]. So this day was always going to be difficult, and it's difficult for the nation."

Showing a camaraderie presumably born of being England captain, Beckham bought fellow queueuers doughnuts at about 7am as spirits threatened to flag, according to one Twitter user.

Beckham's appearance later slowed down the movement of the line.

One well-wisher posted on Twitter as they approached Westminster Hall: "The Queue is now full of people trying to photograph David Beckham and for getting to actually move onwards.

"It's madness! I feel a bit sorry for him, but he's taking it very well."

"It's made me almost forget that

Sexual assaults in queue Man in custody after denying charges

Two women were allegedly sexually assaulted in the queue to attend Queen Elizabeth's lying in state, a court has heard.

Adio Adeshine, 19, allegedly exposed himself and pushed into the mourners from behind, as they waited in line at Victoria

Tower Gardens on Wednesday after Westminster Hall opened its doors to the public.

He is said to have gone into the river Thames in an attempt to evade police before coming ashore and being arrested.

Mr Adeshine

was remanded in custody yesterday after appearing at Westminster magistrates' court charged with two counts of sexual assault and two counts of breaching a sexual harm prevention order.

He spoke to confirm his name, date of birth and

address in Walworth, south-east London, before pleading not guilty to the charges.

Deputy chief magistrate Tan Ikram remanded him in custody ahead of his next appearance at Southwark Crown Court on Oct 14.

we've been in the Queue almost TWELVE HOURS though."

Beckham wasn't the only celebrity prepared for the long slog.

Susanna Reid, 51, host of ITV's *Good Morning Britain*, accompanied her mother, offering tips on Twitter on how to survive the Queue. Reid managed the task in just over seven hours, arriving at Westminster Hall at 8.45pm on Thursday.

"Wear the comfiest shoes you own," she suggested, adding: "Don't carry too much in a bag – water is freely available and there are lots of cafes along the route. Also plenty of toilets."

Not all celebrities did the hard yards.

Phillip Schofield, 60, and Holly Willoughby, 41, who present *This Morning*,

used the VIP route to pay their respects. That looked a less valiant effort after Beckham's 13-hour shuffle.

MPs were facing a backlash after it emerged they had "direct access" to Westminster Hall and, not only that, but had been given four extra tickets each for family and friends.

In contrast, cleaning staff and caterers working in Parliament had no option but to join the Queue.

Queueing times ballooned throughout the day. That provided work for London Ambulance service which had cared for 435 patients who fell ill along the route by the end of Thursday.

Numbers are likely to spiral over the weekend.



A sense of pride restored and, maybe, a return to decency

Alan Cochrane



As a grizzled observer I've always reckoned that the general state of things in Britain has been getting pretty awful for years. As a genuine Elizabethan, having attended a street party – aged three and a half – in my home town to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Coronation in June 1953, I reckon that one of the worst aspects of life today has been the abuse of the freedoms that older generations, such as the Queen's, fought and died to defend – in particular the right, in a democratic society, to protest.

Street violence against the laws of the land may be rare nowadays but it has

been replaced by so-called "save the world" protests, which masquerade as peaceful but are massively disruptive to the lives of others, such as those by Extinction Rebellion and other groups who believe they have a God-given right to do as they please. The upshot is traffic jams and crowds of ordinary people unable to go about their daily lives because a minority reckon they know best how the world should run.

I'm also sickened by the massive intolerance that exists today. There's no such thing as decent debate or even polite discussion; people who don't agree with you are regarded as idiots, or worse – fascists and racists.

Politicians, whose views are at variance with what's considered the respectable "norm", are shunned and often banned from our television screens. Nobody appears capable of

Nobody seems capable of conducting a civilised argument. It's easier to simply howl down the other side

conducting a civilised argument. It's easier to simply howl down the other side. However, as a sign that things may be changing, I think that decency had a bit of a renaissance during the Queen's platinum jubilee only a few months ago. After all those street parties and community events it's now perfectly possible that something similar may be stirring as we mourn her.

The crowds, hundreds of thousands of them, standing patiently and in a good-natured neighbourliness in London today, don't think they know best about how the world should be run and are not glueing themselves to streets or disrupting anybody else. Instead, they are waiting for a chance to say a final goodbye to Queen Elizabeth II, their cherished monarch for the past 70 years. The sight of all those people will miss. The sight of all those people

bowing their heads in total reverence before her coffin has already signalled to the world an obvious feeling of great loss over the death of our queen and, on Monday, billions around the world will watch Britain pay its last respects to this incredible lady.

All of this has resulted in those abroad granting us Britons a new-found, if sometimes grudging, admiration for our tolerance and the sincerity of our feelings for the late Queen. That, in turn, may be having an effect on the rest of us. I've been struck by how people are only too happy to talk to their friends, neighbours and even complete strangers about their deep admiration for Queen Elizabeth. Goodness, I even had such a conversation on a London commuter train this week – a rare event.

And any scruffiness has disappeared

Those abroad have granted us a new-found, if grudging, admiration for our tolerance and sincere feelings

completely thanks to the quite awe-inspiring displays of our marvellous Armed Forces.

Outside of wartime they have never been so well regarded by the public, especially by their determination to put on a show in honour of the woman they called "the boss".

Because of their often onerous ceremonial duties there are so many more soldiers, sailors and airmen on our streets at present and just to see and talk to them about their pride in her service is a genuine tonic.

Desperately sad through doing their duty at the present time may be, they and the ordinary men, women and children who have been to Westminster Hall, as well as those still waiting, have given this nation that same sense of pride. It's been a long time coming. Seventy years, in fact.

Queen Elizabeth II 1926–2022

King vows to be defender of all Britain's faiths

Sovereign promises spiritual leaders he will support religious diversity and says that he will not change Coronation Oath

By Hannah Furness, Jack Hardy and Daniel Sanderson

THE King has pledged to protect the multiple faiths of a diverse Britain "no less diligently" than Christianity in his role as head of the Church of England.

The new monarch, addressing religious leaders at a reception in Buckingham Palace, promised to "protect the space for faith itself", promising to uphold the numerous "religions, cultures, traditions and beliefs to which our hearts and minds direct us".

King Charles is now Supreme Governor of the Church of England, just like

his mother before him, and the palace yesterday confirmed he will not change the wording of his Coronation Oath and will pledge to be "Defender of the Faith".

It had been reported he was considering altering the oath to make himself "Defender of Faith" or "Defender of the Faiths", in recognition of his work to promote "interfaith dialogue". Instead, the King chose to make public his intentions a week into his reign, spelling out his personal commitment to Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Sikhism and other religions at yesterday's reception for more than 30 faith leaders.

"I have always thought of Britain as a

'community of communities'," he told them. "That has led me to understand that the Sovereign has an additional duty – less formally recognised but to be no less diligently discharged."

"It is the duty to protect the diversity of our country, including by protecting the space for Faith itself and its practise through the religions, cultures, traditions and beliefs to which our hearts and minds direct us as individuals."

At the reception in the Bow Room at Buckingham Palace, the King said: "I also wanted, before all of you today, to confirm my determination to carry out my responsibilities as Sovereign of all communities around this country and the Commonwealth and in a way which reflects the world in which we now live. "I am a committed Anglican Christian, and at my Coronation I will take an oath relating to the settlement of the Church of England," he added. His own Christian

I have always thought the sovereign has an additional duty... to protect diversity'

The Duke of York – permitted to wear uniform by the King – stands vigil over the Queen's coffin



Harry and Meghan risk losing America if

The couple can no longer afford to attack the Royal family in a country that revered the late Queen and shares The Firm's grief

Camilla Tominey

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

catafalque, joining their cousins Peter Phillips, Zara Tindall, Princess Beatrice, Princess Eugenie, Lady Louise Windsor and James, Viscount Severn to pay their respects to their beloved "Grannie".

Despite Harry and his wife's decision to step back from royal life in January 2020, the late Queen always insisted that they remained "much-loved members of the family".

Even after the Sussexes' interview with Oprah Winfrey 18 months ago, the late monarch was typically magnanimous, saying that "recollections may vary" about the

couple's experiences of life inside The Firm.

Yet can the truce that has been struck between her once inseparable grandsons lead to lasting peace?

Charles III certainly hopes so. The last thing he needs is for the start of his reign to be overshadowed by the ongoing acrimony between his sons. That is why he offered an olive branch to the Sussexes in his first address as sovereign by expressing his "love for Harry and Meghan, as they continue to build their lives overseas".

Some have interpreted this as the King, 73, putting the couple firmly in their geographical place, with no way back into the royal fold – but as a former aide pointed out: "It's simply not the King's style to do anything that would alienate either of his children. He loves them both deeply and has been devastated by everything that has

The last thing Charles needs is for the start of his reign to be overshadowed by the ongoing acrimony of his sons

happened." Allowing the Duke of Sussex to wear his Blues and Royals uniform at this evening's event is evidence of his desire to "bring Harry back in" despite the family's fears over his forthcoming memoirs.

As "non-working" royals, the couple could have been cast in a backseat role during this week's events and yet, on the King's say-so, they took part in Wednesday's royal procession from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall and will play a similarly prominent part in Monday's final farewell at Westminster Abbey and St George's Chapel, Windsor.

The Prince of Wales has also rightly won plaudits for putting his differences with his brother and sister-in-law aside to invite them to join him and Kate at last Saturday's walkabout outside Windsor Castle. Although it was an Windsor hour

offer for the Sussexes to carry out the meet and greet on the Long Walk – the 45-minute delay caused not by strained negotiations but Harry and Meghan's need to change into mourning dress – it was a genuine reflection of William's desire to ensure their late grandmother's memory was unsullied by talk of recrimination.

Come the end of Monday, Harry and Meghan are expected to make a swift departure back to their £11million mansion in Montecito, California, to be reunited with their children Archie, three, and one-year-old Lilibet, after more than a fortnight apart.

In their own placatory way – and clearly sensing the public mood both in the UK and the US, where the late Queen was revered – they chose not to make a fuss about Harry originally being told that he could not wear his uniform – and have reportedly delayed

Can they afford to attack an institution in mourning when sympathy for the Royal family is at a historic high?

beliefs, he said, had "love at their very heart", adding: "This diversity is not just enshrined in the laws of our country, it is enjoined by my own faith... by my most profound convictions, therefore - as well as by my position as Sovereign - I hold myself bound to respect those who follow other spiritual paths, as well as those who seek to live their lives in accordance with secular ideals."

"They, and our society, can only thrive through a clear collective commitment to those vital principles of freedom of conscience, generosity of spirit and care for others which are, to me, the essence of our nationhood."

The King hosted the event shortly before travelling to Westminster to rejoin the vigil for his mother along with his siblings the Princess Royal, Duke of York and Earl of Wessex.

On Saturday, Queen Elizabeth's eight grandchildren will perform the same

ritual; the first time the grandchildren of a monarch have done so en masse for a laying in state.

Earlier yesterday, the King and Queen Consort made their first visit to Wales in their new roles, attending a service for the late Queen at Llandaff Cathedral, Cardiff. It marked the final stop in their tour of the four home nations.

The Queen Consort paid subtle tribute to both Wales and her late mother-in-law, wearing a leek brooch given to her by Queen Elizabeth II. King Charles expressed his "immense gratitude" for his time serving as Prince of Wales, as he told the Welsh parliament his eldest son, William, who has taken on the title, also holds a deep love for the country.

In a speech to the Senedd, the Welsh parliament, delivered partly in Welsh, the King said Wales "could not have been closer" to the heart of his mother

'Our society can only thrive through freedom of conscience, generosity of spirit, care for others'

as he responded to a motion of condolence offered by Mark Drakeford, First Minister of Wales.

The occasion was not entirely free of acrimony, however. A group of Welsh nationalists booed the monarch as he left the Senedd, but their protests were soon drowned out by cheers.

The King told the Senedd: "Through all the years of her reign, the land of Wales could not have been closer to my mother's heart."

"I know she took immense pride in your many great achievements - even as she also felt with you deeply in time of sorrow."

"It must surely be counted the greatest privilege to belong to a land that could inspire such devotion. I am resolved to honour that selfless example, in the spirit of the words by which I have always tried to live my own life: Ich Dien, I Serve."

Green concerns will be 'highlighted' but campaigning is out

Ardent environmentalist will still have a voice but tone must be different, say palace insiders

By Victoria Ward

ROYAL CORRESPONDENT

THE King will continue to champion the environment while on the throne, palace sources indicated.

However, he will "highlight" issues rather than campaign in the manner he has done for decades.

It comes after His Majesty had a telephone conversation with Emmanuel Macron on Wednesday, during which the French president "signalled his full willingness" to continue their collaborative work "starting with the protection of the climate and the planet".

The King will no longer travel to the Cop27 summit in the Egyptian resort of Sharm El Sheikh, in November, when he was due to push his own green agenda, *The Daily Telegraph* has confirmed.

Upcoming tours of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan have also been scrapped. Instead, the King is expected to make his first official state visit to "one of our nearest neighbours" within weeks.

The last overseas state visit by a reigning British monarch took place in 2015, when the Queen spent three days in Malta with the Duke of Edinburgh.

The King's first foreign visit was previously expected to take in one of the 14 Commonwealth realms but the plan was considered to be too ambitious at short notice.

He was scheduled to open a forum on sustainability at the UN climate change conference after last year's launch of the Terra Carta, his 10-year "recovery plan" for the private sector.

Royal sources said the King's passion for the environment and commitment to the cause would not diminish, noting that it was widely known and not hugely controversial.

What he does about those views is "a different matter" and an issue that his advisers will address between them in the coming weeks and months. One

acknowledged that it might appear odd for the King to suddenly stop talking about a subject on which he has campaigned for five decades.

"There is a difference between highlighting and championing, particularly when championing specific policies," the source said.

"He will not campaign on the issue but he is still a great convener and can still bring people together."

Another insider said it would not be impossible for the King to attend events such as Cop27 in the future but that he would have to take a different approach.

"The way he engages with them would have to change," they said.

The source said a line would have been drawn through any future plans already in the King's diary from when he was Prince of Wales, with new visits scheduled, prioritising Commonwealth realms likely to include Canada or Australia and New Zealand.

Other senior members of the Royal family, including the Prince and Princess of Wales, will be similarly deployed. "Who goes where is extremely important," the source said.

"Overseas visits for the now King and Queen will be very carefully considered not just by Buckingham Palace but also by the Government."

"Suddenly, the UK has an additional card to play in overseas diplomacy."

"These are visits that are about strengthening bonds with other countries; important when travelling as the Prince of Wales but vital as head of state."

The King, who was often accused of meddling in public affairs, acknowledged in his first televised address to the nation last Friday that he would step back from his campaigning and charity work that shaped his life as heir to the throne.

"My life will of course change as I take up my new responsibilities," he said.

"It will no longer be possible for me to give so much of my time and energies to the charities and issues for which I care so deeply. But I know this important work will go on in the trusted hands of others."

Sussexes 'uninvited' from state gathering at palace

By Victoria Ward

THE Duke and Duchess of Sussex appear to have been uninvited to a state reception hosted by the King at Buckingham Palace tomorrow evening.

The couple received an invitation to the grand event for world leaders and foreign royals earlier this week but are thought unlikely to attend after palace officials insisted it was only for working members of the Royal family.

It remained unclear last night why they had received a summons for an occasion that royal aides insisted they were not expected to attend.

Sources close to the pair appeared baffled, while palace aides continued to insist that they were not invited and were not expected to show up.

Joe Biden, the US President, will be among hundreds of heads of state who will be welcomed to London on the eve of Queen Elizabeth II's funeral.

Presidents and prime ministers from across the globe will arrive in the capital throughout the weekend alongside foreign royals, governor-generals and ambassadors.

As dusk falls tomorrow, they will be driven through the gates of Buckingham Palace before being entertained in the Picture Gallery and State Apartments.

Despite the grandeur of their surroundings, the reception will be a muted affair, with guests asked to wear lounge suits or morning dress, with no hats or military decorations.

Guests will be greeted by royals including the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Princess Royal and the Earl and Countess of Wessex. Drinks and

canapes will be served. Guests will include ambassadors from North Korea and Iran as well as Empress Masako of Japan, who will accompany Emperor Naruhito, despite largely retreating from public life two decades ago.

The confusion over the Duke and Duchess of Sussex's attendance follows similarly mixed messaging over Prince Harry's right to wear military uniform this week.

It hints at a lack of communication between the US and UK camps as well as a lack of certainty over how to deal with Harry and Meghan as grieving members of the Queen's family.

It emerged yesterday that the King had given his personal permission for the Duke to wear uniform when he mounts a vigil at his grandmother's coffin this evening.

Prince Harry will form a guard of honour in Westminster Hall alongside all seven of his cousins, from the eldest, Peter Phillips, 43, to the youngest, James, Viscount Severn, 14. The Prince of Wales will stand at the head of the coffin and his brother at the foot.

"At the King's request, they will both be in uniform," a palace source said.

The other grandchildren will be in morning coat and dark formal dress.

Prince William, 40, will be flanked by Zara Tindall, 41, and her brother Peter Phillips. Prince Harry, 38, will be flanked by Princess Beatrice, 34, and Princess Eugenie, 32, with Lady Louise Windsor, 18, and her brother the Viscount at the middle of the coffin.

"The grandchildren, at the King's invitation, are very keen to pay their respects - just as their parents are doing the evening before," the source added.

they resume habit of royal over-sharing

publication of the autobiography. Meghan has also shelved her *Archetypes* podcast for six weeks and cancelled a planned appearance on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*. It is thought Meghan also requested the postponement of her appearance on the cover of *Variety* for its forthcoming "Power of Women" issue.

But will it be enough to persuade a public that has grown weary of their brand of royal over-sharing? And can they afford to carry on attacking an institution in mourning, when sympathy for the Royal family is at a historic high?

As Martin Townsend, former editor of the *Sunday Express* and partner at public relations firm Pagefield, says: "They didn't feel they had to defer to the former Prince of Wales because he was Harry's father and they had the late Queen there as a buffer. They felt

they could get away with any criticism they wanted to make because they weren't criticising Queen Elizabeth, who was by far the most popular member of the Royal family and beyond reproach in most people's eyes.

"But now that buffer is gone. Charles is the King and therefore automatically commands much more support than he used to. That support has only increased because of the remarkable way he has led a nation in mourning. So if Harry and Meghan choose to attack all that now, they are going to look completely out of step."

"The trouble for the couple, however, is that they only seem to be able to gain publicity for their salvos against the royals. Once that stops, what have they got left?"

Their closeness to an epic event that has gripped the world may well help to revive their flagging brand in America,

Harry and Meghan only seem to be able to gain publicity for their salvos against the royals. Once that stops, what have they got left?

but it doesn't support their schtick as outsiders who "just by existing upset the hierarchy". Far from treating them as outcasts, the so-called men in grey suits have given them a ring seat seat. Since Harry has been afforded every courtesy as the King's son, it behoves him to behave courteously back.

There is a glaring irony that both the King and the Prince of Wales share many of the values Harry and Meghan claim to espouse: environmentalism, better mental health, diversity of thought and faith. The Queen Consort is a great defender of women facing violence - in tune with Meghan's self-styled status as a leading feminist.

So if the couple now revert to being overly critical of their nearest and dearest, they are going to look even more out-of-touch and bitter than they do already. Little wonder, then, that there has even been talk of the book,

ghost-written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author JR Moehringer being canned altogether - although having already been submitted and approved by lawyers, that seems unlikely.

The pressure is also on the Prince of Wales - still seething over the way he and Kate have been treated - to seize the moment. If there was ever an opportunity for reconciliation then this week surely presents it.

Yet it seems William and Kate are unable to move on until Harry and Meghan at least "acknowledge" the hurt they have caused. As one source close to the couple says: "They feel that Oprah crossed a line and that someone should acknowledge the motives behind it and the pain it caused. They feel they've had to be steely to send a message that you cannot just say this hugely upsetting stuff without there being consequences." The awkward

It's hard to spend time with someone when you know they're writing a book about you and giving interviews'

scenes at Windsor reflect the fact that there has so far been no great heart-to-heart to strip away tensions that have simmered since the interview with Oprah was broadcast in March last year. Yet as another insider put it: "It's really hard to spend time with someone, or even to speak openly, when you know they're writing a book about you and giving interviews. The trust is gone right now."

For trust to be restored, William and Harry are going to have to move in the same direction. They might be minded to remember their late grandmother's wise words from her Christmas broadcast in 2014: "It is through this lens of history that we should view the conflicts of today, and so give us hope for tomorrow. Although we are capable of great acts of kindness, history teaches us that we sometimes need saving from ourselves."

The Telegraph

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The image shows two smartphones side-by-side, both displaying the mobile version of The Daily Telegraph newspaper. The top phone displays the main homepage with a large headline about exam results, while the bottom phone displays the Sport section with a prominent image of a cricketer.

Top Phone (Main Page):

- Header: 16:42 Tue 11 Aug, Editions Friday, 7 August, 9% battery.
- Section: In Features
- Article: Scorchio! The coolest way to beat the heatwave (with a small illustration of a bathtub).
- Article: Third time lucky Our wedding was corona-cancelled... again (with a small illustration of a couple).
- Article: Lockdown blues Has Covid given you 'low-grade depression?' (with a small portrait of a woman).
- Article: Exam U-turn as pupils win reprieve over appeals (with a sub-headline: Schools will be allowed to challenge unfair grades after backlash over marking system). Includes an EDUCATION EDITOR's note.
- Text: challenge "unfair" A-level and GCSE or changed its stance in the face of a
- Text: able to appeal against results in ieve students are incorrectly marked lelling being used to calculate the
- Text: wake of the Scottish results fiasco ed grades were downgraded by the ty.
- Text: graph revealed that head teachers in p pupils faced being handed a "life owed to appeal.
- Text: d break loose" on A-level results day permitted.
- Text: ations and Examinations Regulation as softened its stance.
- Text: cation Secretary, said he welcomed system, adding that no pupil should receiving unfair grades.
- Text: h exceptional circumstances are no...

Bottom Phone (Sport Section):

- Header: Editions Sport | 127 of 220
- Section: Sport
- Image: A large photo of a cricketer in action.
- Article: Who needs Stokes when you've got Woakes! (England's奇迹 comeback against Pakistan).
- Text: England pull off another miraculous comeback as all-rounder and Buttler inspire astonishing run chase to defeat Pakistan.
- Text: Rugby is back Your complete guide as the RFU confirms the season restart
- Text: Pep talk 'This is Manchester City's World Cup'
- Text: MATT (Cartoon strip)
- Text: Gunman dies in crash after village shooting (A parish councillor was shot at his home in a quiet Hampshire village).
- Text: Windsor Castle opens its secret garden after 40 years (By Victoria Ward)
- Text: Call to scrap jail discounts for offenders who plead guilty (By Charles Hymas HOME AFFAIRS EDITOR)
- Text: Bank says jobs outlook is better than expected (Fewer jobs will be destroyed by the coronavirus crisis than first feared, but that doesn't mean it's all...)

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6 *** Queen Elizabeth II 1926–2022

Stage set for biggest police operation in British history

Thousands of officers from forces around the country to support Metropolitan Police in ensuring the safety of the public, Royal family and world leaders

By Gordon Rayner ASSOCIATE EDITOR

THE state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II will involve the largest policing operation ever staged in the UK, the Metropolitan Police has said.

Officers from almost every force in the country will be in London on Monday to help ensure the safety of the public, the Royal family and visiting heads of state, who will include US President Joe Biden and G7 leaders.

It will be the biggest VIP protection operation ever undertaken in Britain.

To give an idea of the scale of the operation, Stuart Cundy, deputy assistant commissioner of the Met, said 22 miles of barriers had been installed in the capital, all of which will be policed by officers at regular intervals.

Among the specialist officers on duty will be divers, dog handlers, mounted police, motorcycle outriders, firearms officers and close protection officers, who will guard visiting VIPs as well as the Royal family, the Prime Minister and other Cabinet ministers.

Helicopters will patrol the skies and Mr Cundy did not rule out the use of drones and other technology to help police the hundreds of thousands of people expected to line the streets.

In Windsor, airport-style security will be used to check bags and scan for weapons as members of the public make their way to the Long Walk, where the coffin procession will pass on its way to Windsor Castle.

Mr Cundy said a total of 34 arrests had been made in relation to the funeral, but none of them was related to protests.

He said: "This will be the largest single policing event that the Met Police has ever undertaken. As a single event, this is larger than the 2012 Olympics. It is larger than the Platinum Jubilee weekend and the range of officers, police staff and those supporting operations is truly immense."

During the 2012 Olympics, 15,000 police officers were on duty in London at peak times.

There will be 2,000 officers from other police forces on duty alongside Met colleagues at the busiest times.

Sir Mark Rowley, commissioner of the Met, described the policing operation for the funeral as "enormous", adding that his officers and those from other forces were proud to be involved.

He said: "The sense in all the officers I speak to – whether they're Met officers or from around the country – is that everyone feels immensely privileged to be able to take this opportunity to play a small part in supporting the funeral of Queen Elizabeth, and they're really relishing that opportunity."

The number of officers deployed is heading to a point where it will be well beyond the total size of a force like West Midlands or Greater Manchester – it will be heading into the high numbers of thousands of officers deployed."

The West Midlands and Greater Manchester forces each have just over 7,000 officers.

Sir Mark said his officers were all "dedicated to supporting this event and

Policing by numbers

Arresting figures

22
miles of barriers erected in central London

34
arrests so far in connection with the funeral

11
people spoken to about illegal use of drones

2,000
officers from other forces on duty with the Metropolitan Police at peak times

15,000
officers on duty at the same time at the London 2012 Olympics, which will be topped at Monday's funeral

32,954
total number of officers in the Met

ensuring that it is safe, and trying to do it in as unobtrusive way as possible because this is obviously a solemn occasion and we want to present that opportunity for everyone to reflect and mourn as is proper on Monday".

Mr Cundy said: "It's not just that visible presence which makes this the largest policing operation that we've ever deployed. This will be the largest global protection operation that the Met Police has ever undertaken... we will have hundreds of world leaders, UK leaders and VIPs here in London."

"It is a hugely complex operation led by some amazing people both as leaders and those that provide the protection, not just here in London, but in other locations as well."

Mr Cundy said his officers "understand that people have the right to protest" and would make sure that the policing of any protests relating to the Royal family was "proportionate and balanced" and that officers "will only be taking action where it is absolutely necessary".

Assistant Chief Constable Tim De Meyer, of Thames Valley Police, who will be in charge of the policing operation in Windsor, said that anyone planning a peaceful protest should notify the authorities because the more they do so, "the easier we will be able to facilitate that right".

Earlier in the day, Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London, said it would be "disrespectful" for people to stage protests on the day of the funeral.

Mr Cundy also warned the public not to fly drones in central London, where a no-fly zone will be in force, saying that 11 people had been spoken to so far about the use of drones, "primarily members of the public who are not aware and are not considering what they should be doing".

Further details about the precise number of officers on duty on Monday will be given nearer the time.

The officers said that "first and foremost" the policing operation was about keeping people safe, and crowds would be constantly monitored both on the ground and via CCTV and aerial footage to make sure there is no risk of overcrowding or crushes.

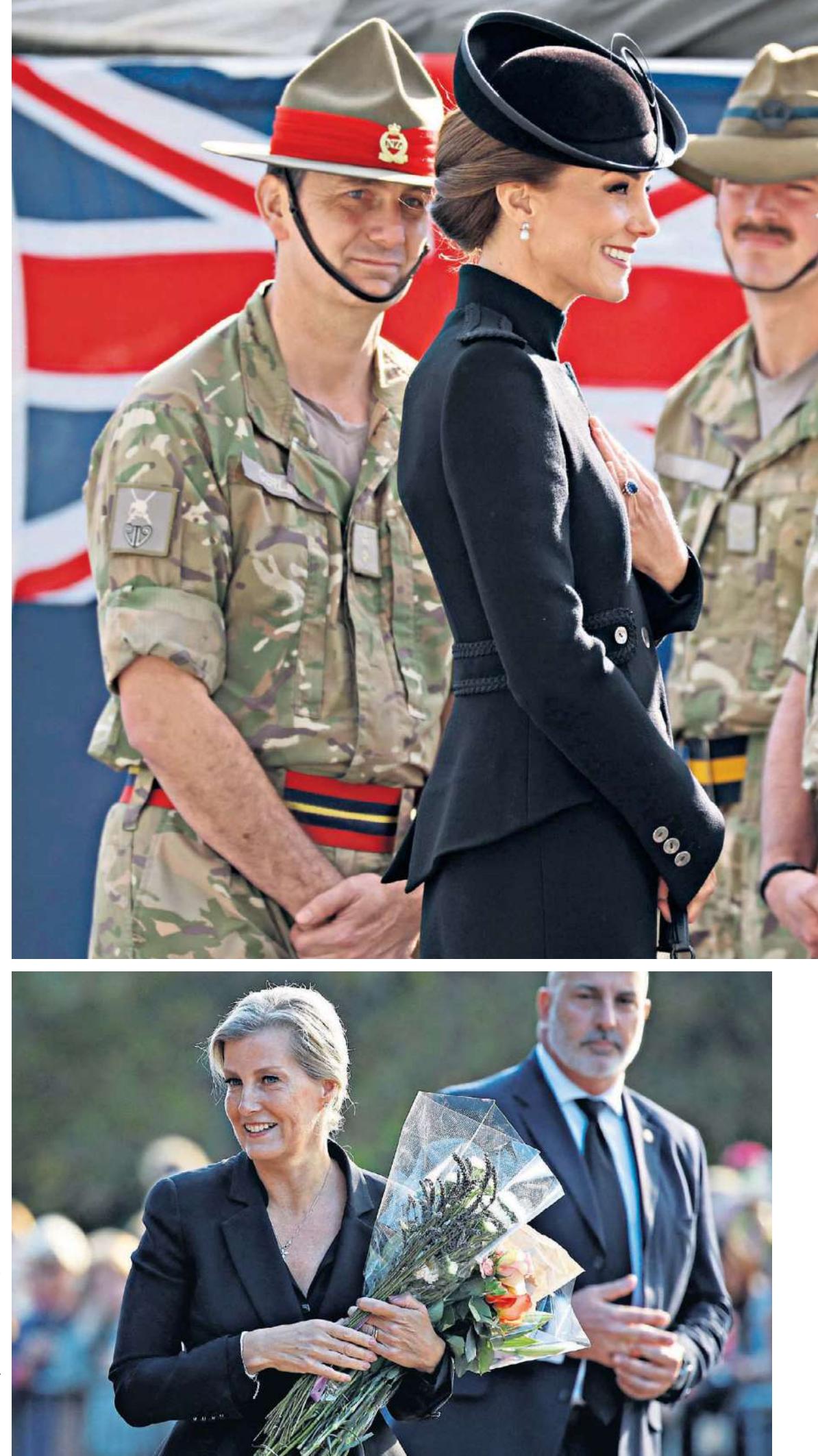
Mr Cundy did not say whether any plots to disrupt the ceremonial events had been foiled by police so far.

But when asked about media reports of a man found swimming in the Thames with a GoPro camera, he said the individual had been spoken to by officers, dismissing it as "nothing more than a man that was going for a charity swim".

His comments came after reports that officers had foiled a suspected plot by an environmental activist after he was caught paddling on a float near the Houses of Parliament.

The Met said police became aware of a man in the river at around 3.25am on Monday who "appeared to be using a flotation device" and came out of the water at Victoria Tower Gardens.

He was not arrested but was "given words of advice about his proximity to a restricted area", a force spokesman said.



Soldier who sheltered Queen from rain will lead final salute

Sergeant will command troops as senior street liner on route of procession from London to Windsor

By Danielle Sheridan DEFENCE EDITOR

When Sgt Richie Baxter held an umbrella over the Queen's head as rain fell on RAF

Marham on a blustery day in 2010, never did he think the day would come that he would be marching as part of the nation's final goodbye to the monarch. But on Monday, instead of shielding the Queen from the cold and wet, the 38-year-old aircraft technician will command troops as a senior street liner for Her Majesty's funeral.

As someone who comes from a military family, with both his siblings also serving across the Armed Forces,

the historic importance of his part in Monday's procession has not gone amiss. "It is important to make sure everything goes perfectly," he said. "It's all centred around a huge moment in history."

Sgt Baxter will join 575 other members of the Royal Air Force, including personnel from Her

Majesty's special relationship units RAF Regiment, RAF College Cranwell, RAF Marham, the Royal Auxiliary Air Force

and 603 (City of Edinburgh) Squadron, who have been rehearsing their roles for the Queen's funeral every day since her death was announced.

Of the 576 personnel, 231 from RAF Cosford will line the streets across London and Windsor.

The Daily Telegraph spoke to personnel at RAF Halton, which has marked out a route at the base that replicates the funeral procession for the marching contingents, including the Band of the Royal Air Force.

Wing Commander Paul Crook, head of Royal Air Force Ceremonial, spoke highly of the "dedicated team of professionals whose role is to maintain the best traditions and ethos of the Service".

Wing Commander Crook acknowledged that while the Queen's death has been a "very solemn

occasion", it has also been the "highlight" of his career, "to be involved in the safe return of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's coffin from Scotland to London".

"Me and my team at RAF Ceremonial are humbled to have had this honour bestowed upon us," he said. "The professionalism of everyone involved, air crew, our sister services and, of course, the Queen's Colour Squadron demonstrated the best of Service and Duty. We continue our duty to Her Majesty until her funeral and will serve His Majesty King Charles III with the same dedication and excellence."

For Flt Lt Gina Dempsey, 42, marching in the Queen's funeral will hold an extra element of sentimentality for her. As an aerospace engineer, she followed in the footsteps of both her parents who served in the RAF.

However, with her 74-year-old father, James, in hospital, she has not been able to share the news of her involvement. Instead, it will be a "complete surprise" for him when he sees his daughter delivering commands from his hospital bed.

"The Queen has been our Commander in Chief for my whole 22 years in the Air Force, and while I was in the cadet force," she said. "She has been our patron. I have so much respect and love for my Queen. To take part in this feels like I am honouring her in the last way I can."

Thinking back to the moment where Sgt Baxter met the Queen more than a decade ago, he cannot help but smile.

"The Queen thanked me before she got back into her car. I wasn't expecting a thank you but it was just lovely to be acknowledged."

NHS hospital and GP appointments to go ahead 'where possible' on bank holiday

By Laura Donnelly HEALTH EDITOR

THE NHS has hit back at criticism of bank holiday closures, with health chiefs insisting that appointments will go ahead wherever possible.

Officials said that hundreds of thousands of staff will be working on Monday, with many "going the extra mile" to ensure patients can pay their respects to the late Queen.

Extra TV screens will be put up in wards, atriums and other public space in hospitals across the country, while

hospital radio stations will broadcast the service, NHS England said.

It comes amid criticism of the decision to cancel thousands of hospital and GP appointments, including those on cancer, cardiology and maternity units, because of the bank holiday.

Palace sources have insisted they wanted "minimum disruption" to the public, with no blanket instruction to close services or events.

Guidance from NHS England has instructed hospitals to contact patients to tell them if appointments have been

postponed or will go ahead. Some major hospitals have said they will postpone "the vast majority" of non-urgent cases.

Others – including major cancer centres – have said they expect services to operate "as usual". Many GP practices will close their doors, with patients forced to contact "out-of-hours" services if they have urgent needs.

A number of medics have said they wanted to work, but were unable to, with clinics closed as staff had to look after children who were off school.

Senior NHS figures have said consul-

tations would go ahead whenever possible and that health service staff would ensure that patients in hospital will be able to watch the state funeral.

Some NHS trusts will open condolence books, or use digital devices so patients can sign remotely.

Dame Ruth May, chief nursing officer for England, said: "As the country rightly pauses to mark Queen Elizabeth II passing, hundreds of thousands of healthcare workers including nurses, clinicians, porters and other staff working in hospitals and our communities in England will ensure patients can also pay their respects."

Officials said: "Patients will continue to be able to access and urgent and emergency treatment and existing appointments – for anything from routine follow-up appointments – will go ahead where possible."

Dame Ruth said: "From staff going the extra mile to help patients sign the online book of condolence, through to hospital chaplains conducting remembrance services, NHS staff will do everything they can to ensure every patient has the chance to pay their respects."

She said the public should use the usual routes for care on the bank holiday, with urgent GP and dental appointments available for emergencies.



BEN BIRCHALL/PA; PETER NICHOLLS/REUTERS; DAN KITWOOD/GETTY

MBE veteran 'humbled' after unexpected invitation

By Daily Telegraph Reporter

A VETERAN made an MBE in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours got a call out of the blue inviting him to the monarch's funeral.

Robert Lodge, of Weeley Heath in Essex, said a "lady from the Cabinet Office rang me and explained that they wanted some recent recipients of the MBE to attend".

"In an instant the answer was yes, of course," the 71-year-old said. "That's a special feeling to get that invite."

Mr Lodge, who joined the Army as an 18-year-old gunner and rose to the rank of captain in 27 years of service, was honoured for his work with the Red Cypher charity. The charity supports past and present members of 3rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery and is so named because "our cap badge is a royal cypher with a red backing", Mr Lodge said.

Mr Lodge met the Queen in Germany in 1984 when she visited a gunner parade in Dortmund.

"She was friendly, straight-talking as everyone knows her to be and a wonderful person," he said. "When I joined the Army in 1969 as an 18-year-old, you swear allegiance to the Queen or the Crown and her successors, and when you do that you start to understand what it is you're getting involved in. The

Queen was our captain general, and King Charles will be our captain general on and on."

Mr Lodge said he was "very sad" when he learned about the Queen's death. "When I was invited to the funeral, it's a duty and I feel privileged, and, 'Why me?', but I'm absolutely blown away with the fact I've been invited," he said.

Mr Lodge said that he had been asked to attend Westminster Abbey on Monday morning.

This year, MBE, Queen dying, being invited to her funeral... it's all a bit surreal, really'

"It's an honour and a privilege," he said. "I just feel very humbled. This year, MBE, Queen dying, being invited to her funeral... it's all a bit surreal, really. But looking at the pictures on the television and all the people I speak to, there's an outpouring of grief. It's just amazing."

"Only this country would produce the standard of organisation and pageantry that we're seeing on the television. Absolutely amazing, outstanding, all the people involved with it."

"Never forget it."

Chinese delegation banned from attending lying in state

By Jack Maidment

CHINA has suggested the UK is guilty of failing to show "proper manners to guests" after it emerged that a Chinese government delegation will not be allowed to attend Queen Elizabeth II's lying in state in Parliament.

Sir Lindsay Hoyle, the Commons Speaker, has imposed a ban on Beijing's representatives entering Westminster Hall to pay their respects.

He is understood to have refused a request for access amid a dispute between Parliament and the Chinese government over sanctioning of MPs.

A spokesman for the Chinese foreign ministry said it had not seen reports about the ban but argued that the UK "should uphold diplomatic protocols".

He said: "The state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II is an important event for the United Kingdom."

"Foreign delegations participating in the event upon invitation from the United Kingdom is a sign of respect to the Queen and the importance accorded to [relations with] the United Kingdom."

"As the host, the United Kingdom should uphold diplomatic protocols and proper manners to guests."

Xi Jinping, the Chinese president, has been invited to the late Queen's state funeral on Monday but it is not expected to attend and it is thought that

Wang Qishan, the country's vice-president, could be sent in his place.

However, while China will be represented in some capacity at the funeral at Westminster Abbey, its officials will not be able to attend the lying in state a stone's throw away.

Westminster Hall forms part of the parliamentary estate and as such is under the control of the Commons Speaker and the Lord Speaker.

A spokesman for the House of Commons said he would not comment on security matters. A spokesman for Sir Lindsay declined to comment.

A Downing Street spokesman said: "Admission to Parliament is a matter for Parliament."

The decision to refuse entry to the delegation is likely to inflame tensions between Parliament and Beijing.

China sanctioned nine individuals and four organisations from the UK – including Sir Iain Duncan Smith, the former leader of the Conservative Party, and four other Tory MPs – in March last year after Britain imposed sanctions on Chinese officials for alleged human rights abuses in Xinjiang.

The decision to ban the Chinese delegation from the lying in state comes after the sanctioned MPs sent a letter to the speakers this week seeking assurances that representatives from Beijing would not be allowed into Parliament.

Drive to Windsor will enable many more to say farewell

By Robert Mendick CHIEF REPORTER

THE Queen's final journey – a 25-mile drive to Windsor Castle – will give millions of well-wishers a final chance to say goodbye.

The funeral cortege will avoid motorways and instead travel along A roads to Windsor for the committal service followed by private burial.

That will enable crowds to line the route and watch the state hearse, made specially for the late monarch, as it drives past at a sedate speed of about 12 miles per hour.

A Buckingham Palace source said: "The route to Windsor is planned with the public in mind."

Details of the route were disclosed last night, giving mourners an opportunity to find vantage points in advance.

The hearse will begin its journey in central London, heading west to Windsor following Monday's state funeral at Westminster Abbey, attended by world leaders including Joe Biden, the US president. More than a million people will throng the streets around the abbey to try to catch a glimpse of proceedings.

However, the route the hearse takes will allow many more people to see the late Queen on her last journey.

It will pass along the A4, A30 and then the A308, arriving before 3pm, having set off a little after

1pm. The route will take the coffin past landmarks including the Albert Memorial and the Natural History Museum.

It will then be driven through suburban west London before reaching the countryside on the edge of Windsor, including passing Runnymede, where Magna Carta was sealed.

The route has been planned for years as part of Operation London Bridge, which has dictated proceedings since Elizabeth II's death last Thursday.

The coffin will leave Westminster Abbey at 12.15pm for the procession to Wellington Arch in Hyde Park. The late Queen's body will be taken from a gun carriage and placed in the hearse at 1pm for the 25-mile drive to Windsor Castle.

The hearse's journey takes it along South Carriage Drive in Hyde Park, then on to Queens Gate in South Kensington before turning in to Cromwell Road and the start of the A4.

A route well known to frustrated commuters, the coffin will be taken along Talgarth Road via the Hammersmith Flyover, on the road out of London.

The cortège will go past Chiswick House, under the Chiswick flyover and then join the A30, passing the perimeter of Heathrow airport on the south side before reaching Staines.

The route then joins the A308 before heading north to Windsor.

Emperor will take bus to funeral with global politicians and heads of state

Foreign dignitaries will travel by coach to ensure schedule is on time and to keep events secure

By Ben Riley-Smith POLITICAL EDITOR

EMPEROR NARUHITO of Japan will be among hundreds of foreign dignitaries to be taken by bus to Westminster Abbey on Monday for Queen Elizabeth II's funeral.

The Foreign Office is laying on collective transport for almost all of those attending in an attempt to control timings and keep the event secure.

It means that hundreds of the most important political and royal figures in their respective countries will have to share transport to reach the service for the late Queen.

Sources familiar with the plans suggested that high-end coaches will be used for moving dignitaries to and from the service.

A few exceptions are expected, however. Joe Biden, the US president, who normally travels in a heavily fortified car nicknamed the Beast, is expected to take his own transport to the funeral.

The Emperor's attendance with Empress Masako is noteworthy. Funeral attendances from the Japanese Emperor are rare, according to *Politico*, the political news outlet, given the Shinto religion believes death is impure.

But the 62-year-old ruler, who took the throne in 2019, is something of an Anglophile. He studied at Oxford University and developed a friendship with the late Queen and her husband the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Emperor stayed at Balmoral, the Scottish royal estate, in the early 1980s when studying in the UK, and his father attended Queen Elizabeth's coronation three decades earlier.

Confirming the attendance, Hirokazu Matsuno, Japan's chief cabinet secretary, said: "The British Royal family and our imperial family enjoy a long and close relationship, one that stretches back three generations from the current Emperor, to the emperor emeritus [former Emperor Akihito], to Emperor Showa."

The Japanese Emperor and Empress are not the only royals flying into the UK to mark the passing of the late Queen, who made more overseas trips than any other British monarch.

The Daily Telegraph has seen a list detailing more than 20 high-profile overseas royal family members who are expected to attend the funeral.

From Europe, attendance is expected from the King of the Belgians, the Queen of Denmark, the Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein, the Grand Duke of Luxembourg, the Prince of Monaco, and the Kings of the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Sweden.

Others present will include the King of Bhutan, the Sultan of Brunei, the Crown Prince of Kuwait, the Malaysian Sultan, the Sultan of Oman, the Amir of the State of Qatar, the King of Tonga and the president of the UAE.

For Saudi Arabia, an acceptance has been received from King Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud. Invitations were sent to heads of states.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, widely seen by political commentators as the real power behind the Saudi throne, is also expected to be in the UK in the coming days.

He will deliver his country's condo-

les to the Royal family, according to *The Guardian*. However it is unclear whether he will attend the funeral.

The Crown Prince, known as MBS, has not visited the UK since the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, the Washington Post columnist, in October 2018, which led to the imposition of UK sanctions.

In total, around 500 guests from 200 countries and territories will be present at the funeral. Among them will be nearly 100 presidents and heads of government.

A source working on the plans likened it to organising 100 state visits at once – a mammoth diplomatic effort, which has involved the work of 400 officials at the Foreign Office.

The furthest travelled is believed to be the 11,000 miles flown by Jacinda Ardern, New Zealand's prime minister, who is already in the UK.

Like all of the 14 Commonwealth realms, New Zealand has been able to invite 10 extra guests – selected by the realm – to attend the funeral.

Among the New Zealand delegation is Tuheitia Paki, the Maori King.

Each member of the G7 group of nations will have a representative. As well as the Japanese Emperor, attendees will include Emmanuel Macron, the French president; Mr Biden; Justin Trudeau, the Canadian prime minister; Frank-Walter Steinmeier, the German president; and Sergio Mattarella, the Italian president.

Liz Truss, the Prime Minister, will hold brief talks over the weekend with some of her counterparts, including Mr Biden, but the gatherings will not be formal bilateral meetings, because of the period of mourning.



Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako will attend the funeral

VIP list Royal representatives and G7 leaders

Royal representation at the funeral will include:	Grand Duke of Luxembourg, Malaysian Sultan, Prince of Monaco, Crown Prince of Morocco, King of the Netherlands, King of Norway, Sultan of Oman, Amir of the State of Qatar, King Salman of Saudi Arabia, King of Spain, King of Sweden, King of Tonga, and the president of the UAE	country is also coming to the funeral.
Crown Prince of Bahrain, King of the Belgians, King of Bhutan, Sultan of Brunei, Sultan of Oman, Amir of the State of Qatar, King of Jordan, King of the Kingdom of Lesotho, Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein,	President Biden, President Macron, President Steinmeier, President Mattarella, Prime Minister Trudeau and Emperor Naruhito.	President Biden, President Macron, President Steinmeier, President Mattarella, Prime Minister Trudeau and Emperor Naruhito.
King of the Netherlands, King of Norway, Sultan of Oman, Amir of the State of Qatar, King Salman of Saudi Arabia, King of Spain, King of Sweden, King of Tonga, and the president of the UAE	New Zealand, which can bring 10 guests as a member of the Commonwealth, is bringing the Maori King, Tuheitia Paki.	New Zealand, which can bring 10 guests as a member of the Commonwealth, is bringing the Maori King, Tuheitia Paki.
A representative from every G7		

Queen Elizabeth II 1926–2022

QUEEN ELIZABETH II'S FUNERAL

Westminster funeral service

PROCESSION TO WESTMINSTER ABBEY

At 6.30am the doors to Westminster Hall will close and the lying in state of Queen Elizabeth will officially come to an end. Over the next four hours, preparations will be made for the late Queen's procession to Westminster Abbey.

Shortly after 10:35am, a bearer party from Queen's Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, will lift the coffin from the catafalque and carry it in procession from Westminster Hall to the Royal Navy gun carriage, which will be pulled by 98 sailors and trailed by a further 44. Two hundred military musicians, led by massed pipes and drums from Scottish and Irish regiments, will then lead the procession, which will include the King, to Westminster Abbey for the funeral service.

10.35am Bearer party of Queen's Company, 1st Bn Grenadier Guards lifts coffin from catafalque and places it on state gun carriage first used for funeral of Queen Victoria



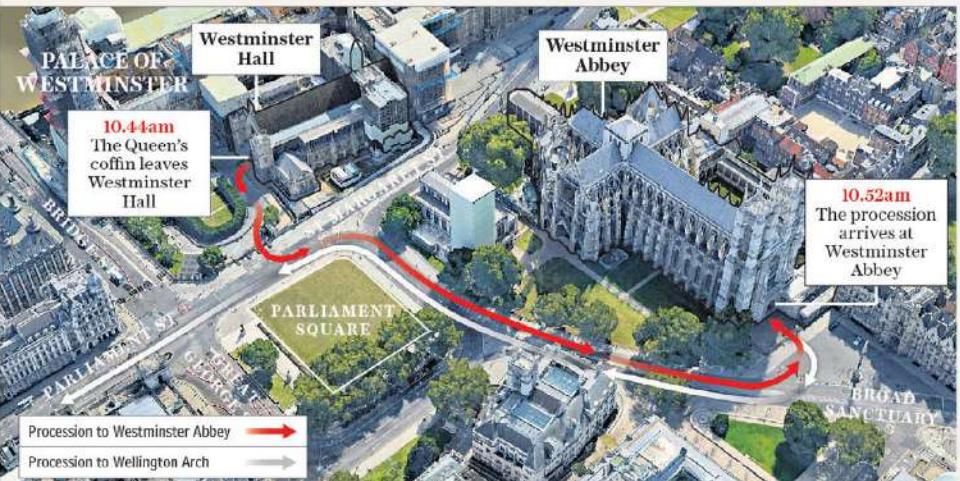
Arrangement of Royal family in procession

BEHIND THE STATE GUN CARRIAGE



MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLDS FOLLOW

The route to and from Westminster Abbey



The State Gun Carriage

ON THE CARRIAGE

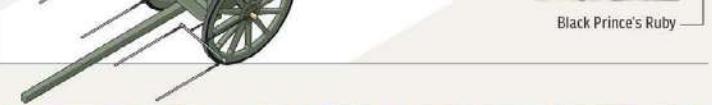
- 1 Gun carriage
- 2 The Royal Standard
- 3 Sovereign's sceptre
- 4 Sovereign's orb
- 5 The Imperial State Crown
- 6 Wreath of flowers

The Royal Standard

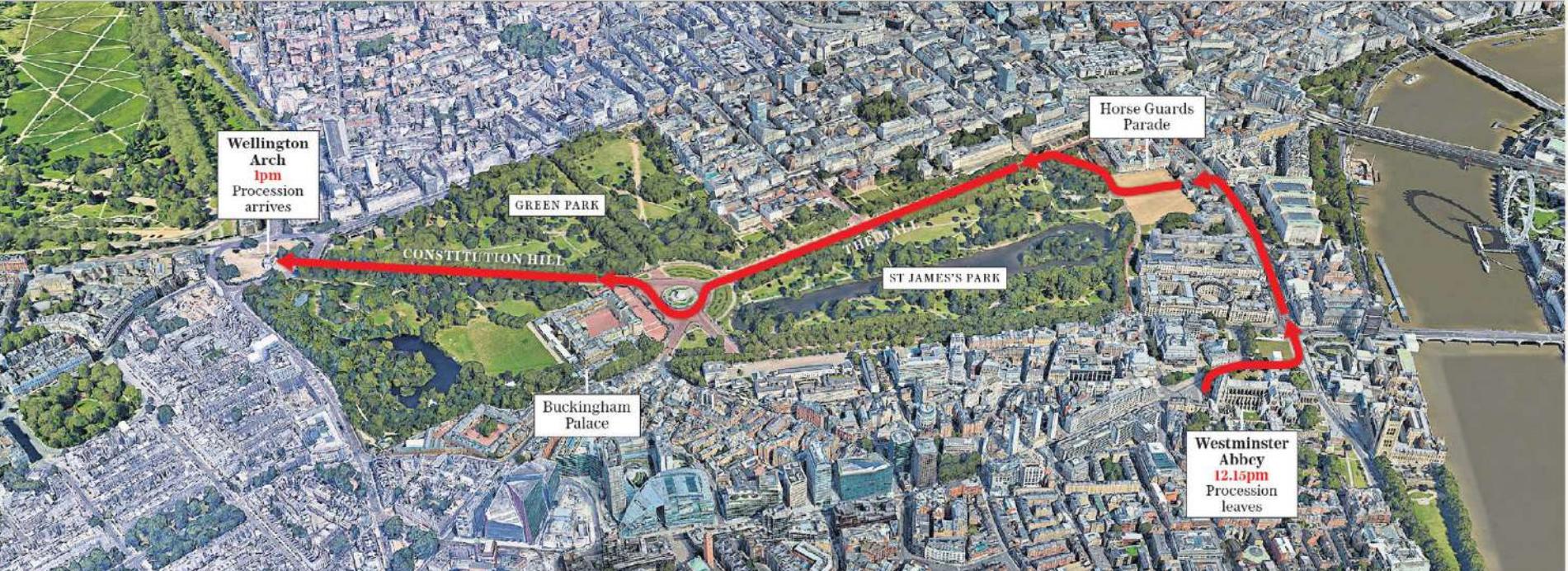
Kingdom of England
Kingdom of Scotland
Kingdom of Ireland

2,686 Diamonds
17 Sapphires

Black Prince's Ruby



FROM WESTMINSTER ABBEY TO WELLINGTON ARCH

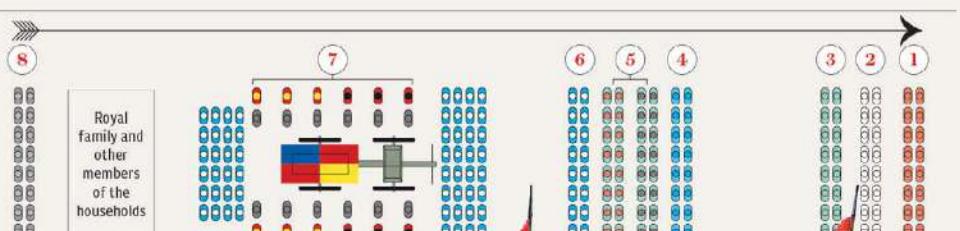


In the procession to Wellington Arch

MEMBER GROUPS OF THE PROCESSION

- 1 Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- 2 George Cross Foundation: representatives of NHS, Malta and Police Service of Northern Ireland
- 3 Armed Forces of the Commonwealth
- 4 Royal Air Force
- 5 Army
- 6 Royal Navy and Royal Marines
- 7 State Gun Carriage and bearer party with Royal Company of Archers, Gentlemen at Arms, Yeomen of the Guard and Pall Bearers
- 8 Civilian services

Royal family and other members of the households



Military spotter's guide

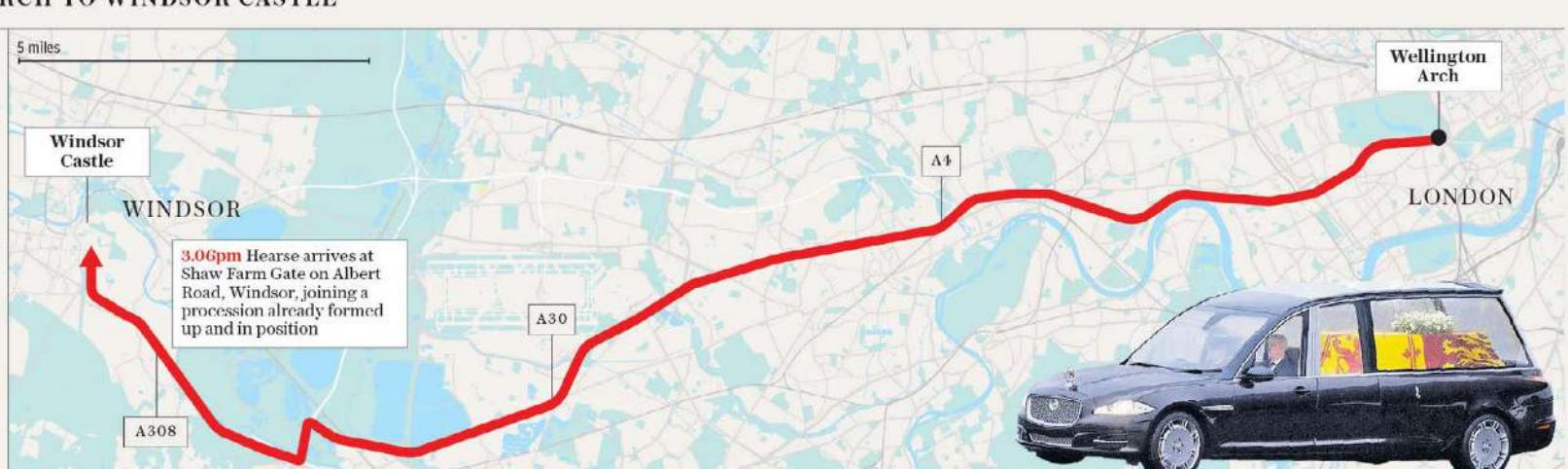


FROM WELLINGTON ARCH TO WINDSOR CASTLE

Since Victoria, monarchs have traditionally processed to Paddington Station to travel to Windsor by train. Queen Elizabeth, however, will be placed in a hearse at Wellington Arch and driven to the Berkshire town where she will be interred. Members of the public are expected to line the route to see the late monarch for a final time.

THE ROUTE

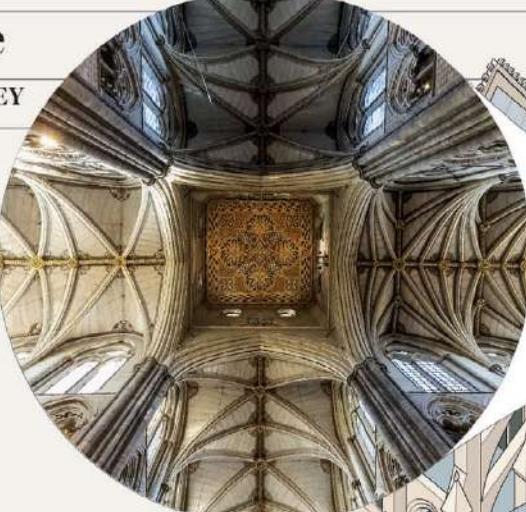
Apsley Way
South Carriage Drive
Queens Gate
Cromwell Road
Talgarth Road (via Hammersmith Flyover)
Great West Road (A4)
Great South West Road (A30)
London Road (A30) (via under Chiswick Flyover)
Staines Road (A30)
Windsor Road (A308)
Albert Road (A308) to Shaw Farm Gate



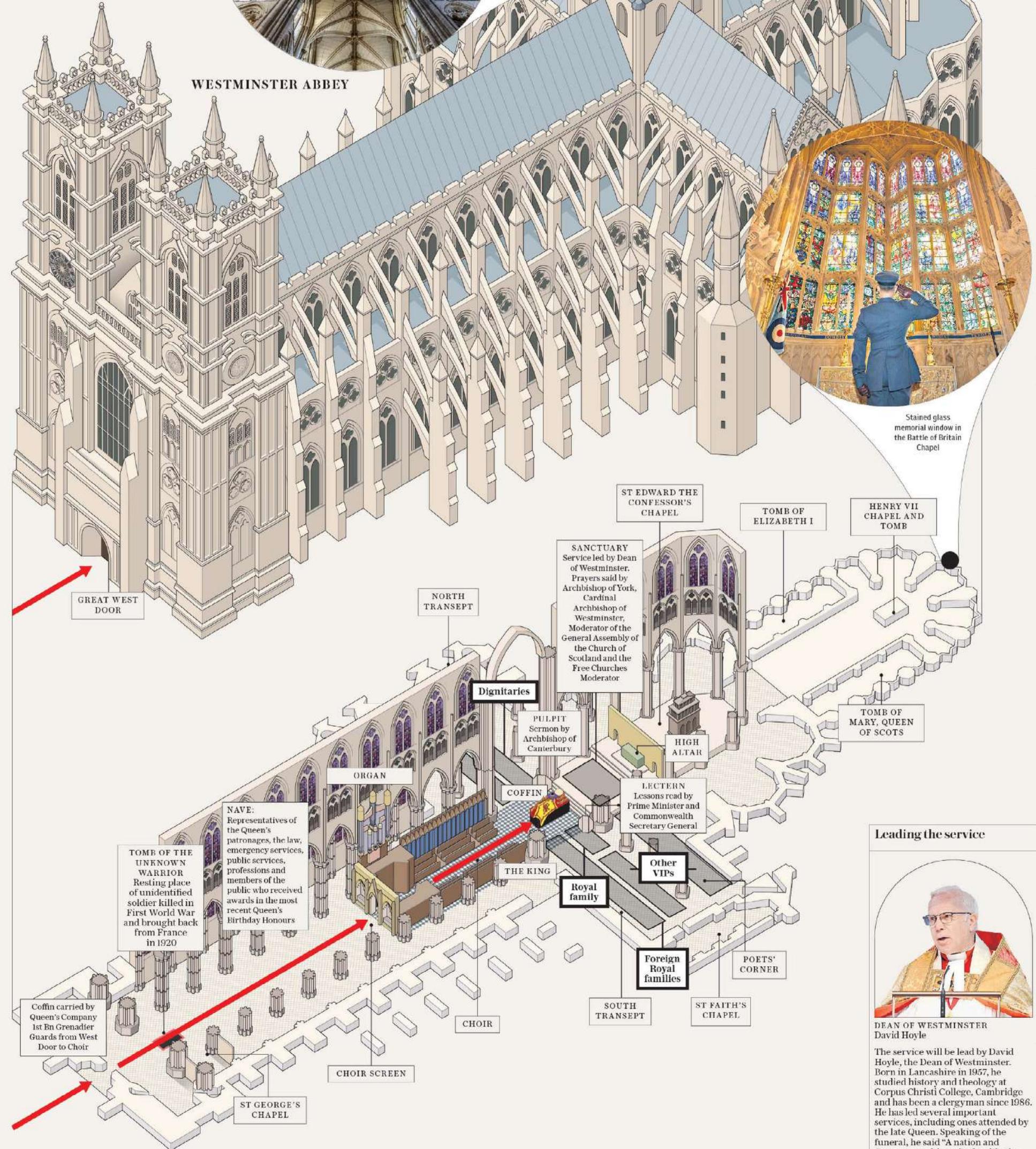
The funeral service

INSIDE WESTMINSTER ABBEY

At 11am, the funeral service will begin, led by the Dean of Westminster. The Prime Minister will read one of the lessons and there will be contributions from the Church of Scotland, the Catholic Church and the Free Churches Group. At 11:55am, Last Post will be sounded, followed by a two-minute silence, Reveille, the National Anthem and a lament by the Queen's Piper, marking the end of the funeral service.



The vaulted ceiling



Leading the service



DEAN OF WESTMINSTER
David Hoyle

The service will be lead by David Hoyle, the Dean of Westminster. Born in Lancashire in 1957, he studied history and theology at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge and has been a clergyman since 1986. He has led several important services, including ones attended by the late Queen. Speaking of the funeral, he said "A nation and Commonwealth, quite frankly the whole world, will be paying attention and the Abbey will be a bit of a crucible holding all that".

Foreign dignitaries

The funeral service will mark one of the greatest gatherings of dignitaries and heads of state in the post-war era. Guests will include the American president, Joe Biden, and the prime ministers of Australia, Canada and New Zealand, as well as monarchs from across Europe and the Emperor and Empress of Japan.



PRESIDENT OF THE US
Joe Biden



PRESIDENT OF FRANCE
Emmanuel Macron



PRIME MINISTER OF IRELAND
Micheal Martin



PRIME MINISTER OF NEW ZEALAND
Jacinda Ardern



PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA
Justin Trudeau



PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA
Anthony Albanese



EMPEROR OF JAPAN
Naruhito



KING OF NORWAY
Harald V



KING OF THE NETHERLANDS
Willem-Alexander



FIRST LADY OF UKRAINE
Olena Zelenska

Queen Elizabeth II 1926–2022

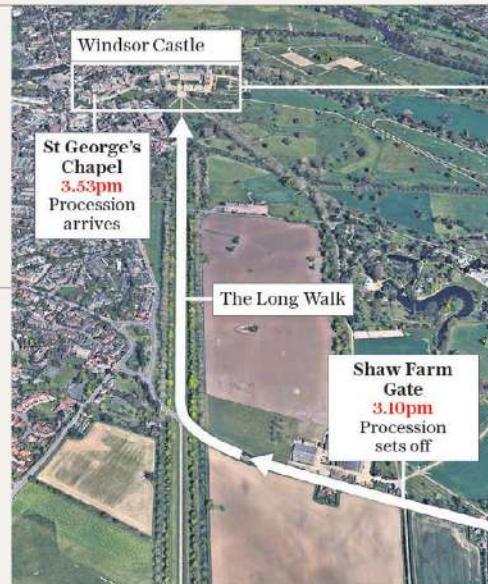
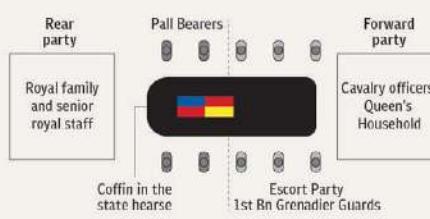
QUEEN ELIZABETH II'S FUNERAL

Windsor committal and interment

PROCESSION TO WINDSOR

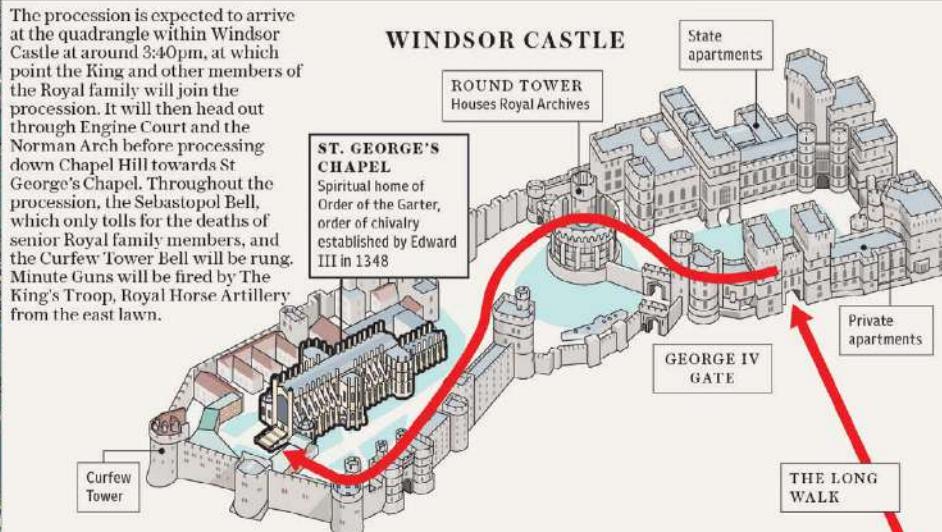
At 3:06 pm, the hearse carrying the late Queen is expected to arrive at Shaw Farm Gate on the edge of Windsor Great Park. It will then join a new procession which will step off at 3:10pm and head down the Long Walk to Windsor Castle. This procession will also include massed pipes and drums from Scottish and Irish regiments as well as bands from the Coldstream Guards and the Household Cavalry.

Windsor procession



PROCESSION IN WINDSOR CASTLE

The procession is expected to arrive at the quadrangle within Windsor Castle at around 3:40pm, at which point the King and other members of the Royal family will join the procession. It will then head out through Engine Court and the Norman Arch before processing down Chapel Hill towards St George's Chapel. Throughout the procession, the Sebastopol Bell, which only tolls for the deaths of senior Royal family members, and the Curfew Tower Bell will be rung. Minute Guns will be fired by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery from the east lawn.



AT ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL

At approximately 3:53pm, the procession will arrive at the west steps of St George's Chapel, built by Edward III in the 14th-century. It has been the site of dozens of royal funerals and weddings, including most recently the funeral of Prince Philip, and holds the remains of Henry VIII, Charles I and George III among others. The bearer party will lift the coffin from the state hearse and process it up the west steps.

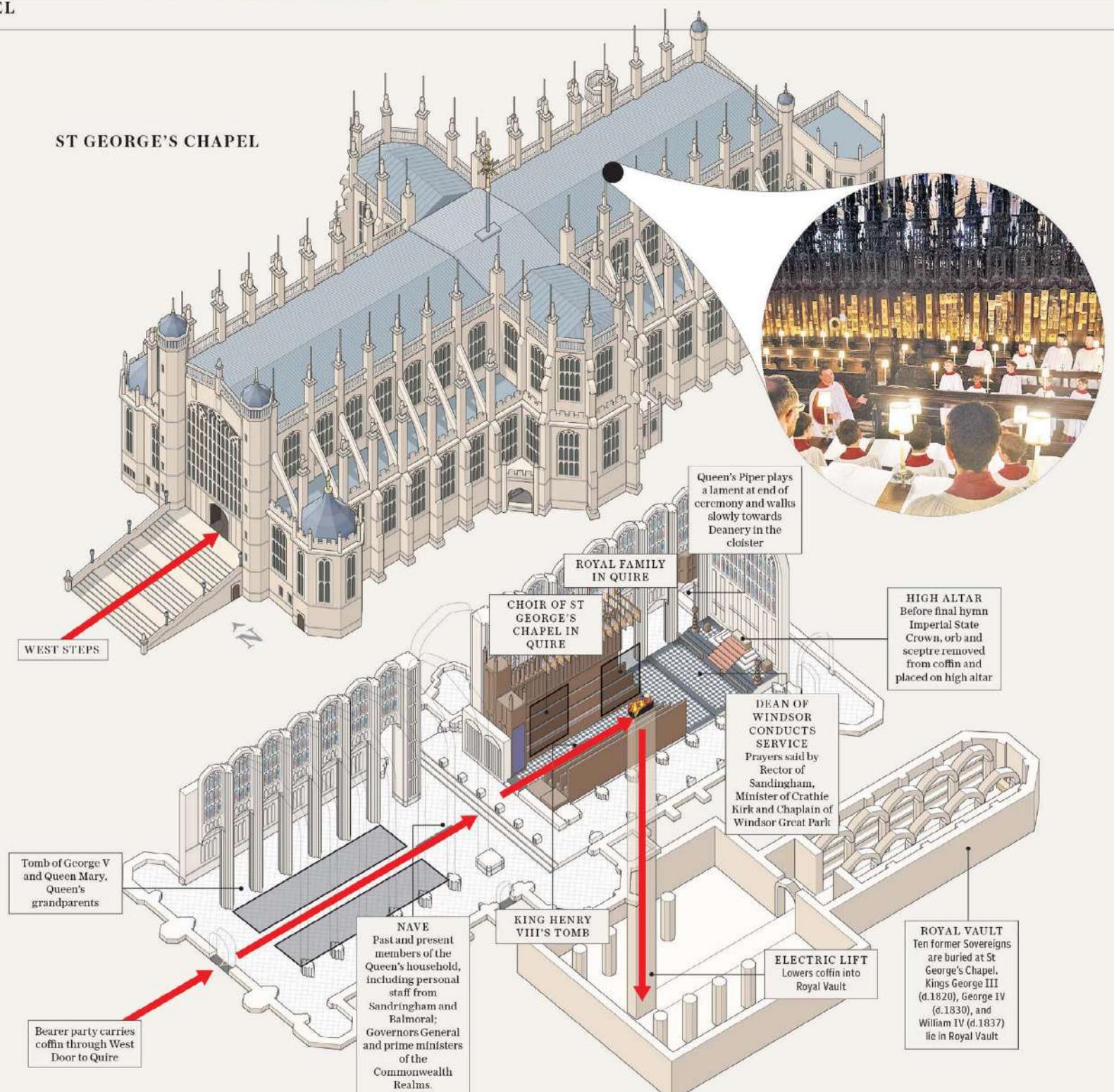
The committal service



DEAN OF WINDSOR
David Conner

The committal service will begin at 4pm and include a congregation made up mostly of past and present members of the Royal household, many of whom have worked on the late Queen's private estates. The congregation will, on the whole, not have been at Westminster Abbey. Towards the end of the service, led by the Dean of Windsor, the Imperial State Crown, orb and sceptre will be removed from the coffin and the King will place the Queen's Company Camp Colour of the Grenadier Guards, the most senior of the foot guards regiments, on the coffin while the Lord Chamberlain will break his wand of office and also place it atop the coffin. The late Queen will then be lowered through the chapel floor into the royal vault. This marks the end of public commemorations.

ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL

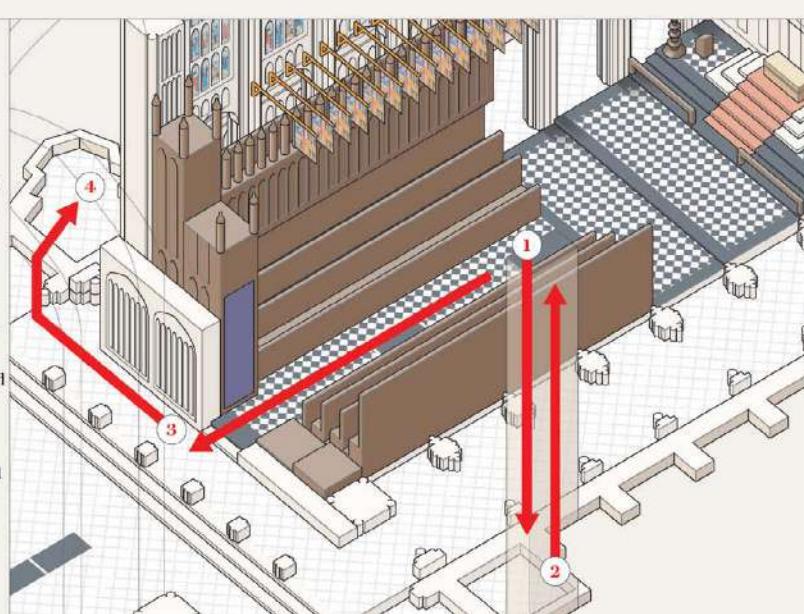


Laying to rest

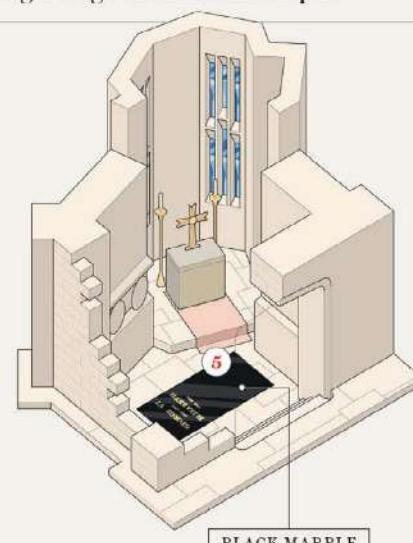
At 7:30pm, there will be a private service for the King and the Royal family. During this service, the late Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh's coffins will be removed from the royal vault and laid to rest in the King George VI Memorial Chapel to the north side of St George's Chapel. This chapel was added in the 1960s at the request of Queen Elizabeth to house her father and was built with space for the Queen Mother and two further monarchs and their consorts. It also houses the ashes of Princess Margaret.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE COFFIN

1. Towards end of service, coffin lowered through floor to Royal vault
2. After service, coffins of late Queen and Prince Philip raised to quire
3. Coffins moved to George VI Memorial Chapel
4. During private service, coffins are lowered into vault below chapel
5. Marble slab returned to its position sealing the vault



King George VI Memorial Chapel



Two Met officers stabbed in central London

Policeman knifed in the neck while colleague may have life-changing injuries after confronting suspect

By Martin Evans
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A FEMALE police officer has been left with potentially life-changing injuries after she and a male colleague were stabbed in central London.

The pair had been on a routine patrol in the Leicester Square area early yesterday morning when they approached a man who was acting suspiciously. As the female officer challenged the man he produced a knife and stabbed her in the arm before fleeing the scene.

He was pursued by her male colleague, who after tackling him a short distance away, was stabbed three times in the neck and chest.

The man was eventually subdued by other officers who used Tasers, pepper spray and batons to restrain him.

Both officers were taken to hospital where they were said to be in a stable condition. The suspect, who is in his

'The police officers surrounded the guy and tasered him, like, five times because he had a knife'

20s, was arrested on suspicion of causing grievous bodily harm and assaulting an emergency worker, before also being taken to hospital for treatment.

Scotland Yard said they did not believe the attack was terror related or was in any way connected with the period of mourning for the late Queen.

Youssef Boucetta, 27, a taxi driver, witnessed the incident on his way to pick up a fare at Heathrow Airport.

He said that six officers struggled to tackle the suspect, who was eventually restrained when a passer-by threw a bicycle at him.

Mr Boucetta said: "First of all, I saw this female officer appear from around the corner with blood on her arm. She was screaming 'I've been stabbed, I've been stabbed', so I got out my car with my jacket and wrapped it around her."

"Then more police officers... surrounded the guy and tasered him, like, five times because he had a knife."

Sir Mark Rowley, the new Met Commissioner, praised the bravery and dedication of his officers and said the incident illustrated the risks the police took every day to keep people safe.

The attack happened as thousands of



A police photographer attends the scene of the stabbing near Leicester Square, central London. A man in his 20s was arrested on suspicion of causing grievous bodily harm and assaulting an emergency worker

police officers from across the country are on patrol in the capital ahead of the Queen's funeral on Monday.

Speaking at Scotland Yard, Sir Mark said: "It's a reminder to me that with all the calls for reform in the Metropolitan Police – which are absolutely necessary

– we should never forget that we've got thousands of dedicated men and women going out every day who are prepared to be brave for Londoners."

He said the female officer's vein had been severed in the attack and as a result she had sustained "massive blood

loss". "We remain concerned that the injuries to the young woman officer's arm may still be quite serious and may potentially be life-changing, but that's yet to be worked through," he added.

It is understood the man attacked the female officer after she approached him

because of her suspicions that he might be armed.

Suella Braverman, the Home Secretary, expressed deep concern at the incident. She said: "Every day, we are safer thanks to the bravery of our policemen and women. I wish the

police officers a swift recovery and my thoughts are with their family, friends and colleagues."

Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London, condemned the attack and called for anyone with information about the incident to contact the police.

Albanian criminals cut off tags with scissors to avoid detection

By Charles Hymas
HOME AFFAIRS EDITOR

ALBANIAN criminals and migrants who have been electronically tagged to prevent them absconding are cutting off their devices in an attempt to escape and evade detection.

One Albanian – tagged after being

charged with growing 800 cannabis plants on an illegal farm – boasted on social media how easy it was to cut off his tag using kitchen scissors.

Hundreds of Albanians have been

after being released from prison. Albanians account for 28 per cent of all foreign national offenders who are on tags, according to data obtained by the HM chief inspector of borders and immigration.

As of March, there were 465 Albanian criminals on tags, more than four times the 106 Jamaicans and 75 Poles. This is

on top of the record number of Albanians entering the UK illegally across the Channel, many of whom are being tagged.

Albanians now account for up to 60

per cent of migrants reaching the UK,

with the overall total nearing 30,000 – double the rate in 2021.

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) has

expanded tagging to ease the pressures on overcrowded prisons and allow for criminals and illegal migrants to be held securely in the community.

About 15,000 people are currently on tags, with the MoJ aiming to increase the number to 25,000 by 2025.

Anyone removing or breaching their

tags faces being sent to jail. In the

465

The number of Albanian criminals on tags, in the latest figures, in contrast to 106 Jamaicans and 75 Poles

to avoid deportation, they go underground and remove the tags."

A Probation Service spokesman said: "Those who tamper with tags are reported instantly thanks to sophisticated safety measures and face going back to court or prison if they do."

The Daily Telegraph passed the video to the MoJ. A source said that officials had not been able to identify the man from the video, nor when it was filmed but added that if someone cut off a tag the Probation Service or the police were alerted and the wearer would face further sanction.

The MoJ said the average daily tamper rate was just 0.3 per cent in the 12 months to July 2022.

Witness sketch helps to convict killer driver

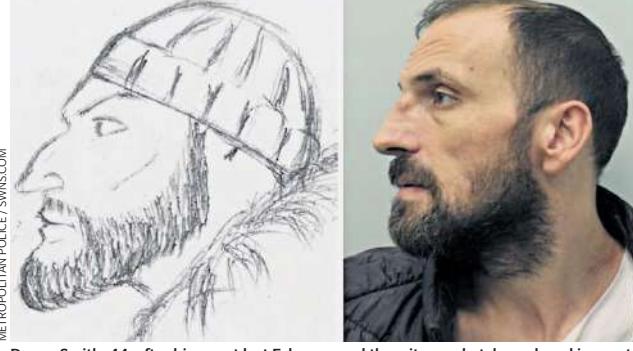
By Daily Telegraph Reporter

A "DANGEROUS" criminal who killed a young man in a road crash has been jailed for 24 years with the help of an uncannily accurate witness sketch.

Danny Smith, 44, of Chigwell, Essex, smashed into a motorcycle ridden by Saleem Ahmed, 20, as he tried to overtake two cars in Redbridge, last year.

A witness had seen Smith, who was driving erratically for 30 minutes prior to the collision, and drew a sketch from which he was identified when he was arrested two months later.

Smith was jailed at Snaresbrook Crown Court for causing Mr Ahmed's death by dangerous driving while unqualified and uninsured and failing to stop. He admitted other offences includ-



Danny Smith, 44, after his arrest last February and the witness sketch produced in court

ing robbery, burglary, handling stolen goods, criminal damage, theft of a motor vehicle and dangerous driving, the Metropolitan Police said.

On Feb 5, he stole a vehicle from a car showroom in Romford. He was caught while driving erratically in Waltham Forest two days later.

"Forensic evidence would place him inside the Audi that collided with Saleem, while the sketch provided by the witness – bearing an uncanny resemblance to Smith – would help prove he was the driver," police said.

"The weight of evidence left Smith with no option but to plead guilty."

Canada may welcome spy who helped Begum join IS

By Charles Hymas

THE double agent responsible for smuggling Shamima Begum into Syria has been released from jail in Turkey, it emerged yesterday, and may be granted political asylum in Canada.

Mohammed al-Rashed, who worked for the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) while smuggling recruits into Syria for Islamic State, was freed on Aug 5, according to sources.

His role in helping Ms Begum and her two friends get into Syria emerged after he was arrested by the Turkish authorities in 2015 and subsequently jailed for terrorism and smuggling offences. It was only then that CSIS told Scotland Yard about their double agent.

Al-Rashed, who was recruited to the CSIS in 2013, told Turkish intelligence after he was arrested that he was prom-

ised Canadian citizenship if he passed on information about the activities of IS.

Turkey is understood to have made clear it would not allow the Syrian national to stay in the country beyond his jail term. Marco Mendicino, Canada's public safety minister, declined to say if al-Rashed was granted asylum.

Justin Trudeau, Canada's prime minister, defended the CSIS last month, saying "the fight against terrorism requires our intelligence services to continue to be flexible and to be creative".

Ms Begum's return to the UK remains blocked, despite al-Rashed's involvement in helping her cross the border into Syria in 2015.

Lawyers for Ms Begum, 21, say there is "overwhelming evidence" that she was a victim of trafficking and argue the Government has a legal duty to investigate the claims.

'Mother, 30, and 10-year-old son' found dead in flat

By Daily Telegraph Reporter

A WOMAN and a child, believed to be mother and son, have been found dead inside a flat.

The discovery of the woman, believed to be aged 30, and her 10-year-old child, was made after police were called to an address in Cross Ingram Road, Holbeck, Leeds, on Thursday at about 9pm.

West Yorkshire Police said an alert was made by someone who raised concerns about the welfare of the occupants.

A police spokesman said: "While inquiries are ongoing to establish the full circumstances of their deaths, officers are not looking for anyone else in connection with the incident.

"Formal identification has yet to be completed."

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News

Kwarteng and PM seek new blood for top Treasury role

Three senior civil servants in frame for permanent secretary job as country faces threat of recession

By Ben Riley-Smith POLITICAL EDITOR

A THREE-way race has broken out to become the Treasury's most senior civil servant as Liz Truss and her Chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, look to make a swift decision over the role.

The Treasury permanent secretary position has been vacant since last week when Mr Kwarteng sacked the occupant Sir Tom Scholar in one of his first acts in the department.

The move chimed with the Prime Minister and Chancellor's scepticism about what they have dubbed "Treasury orthodoxy", but prompted a backlash from former civil servants.

With the economy facing soaring inflation and the threat of recession, a speedy decision on Sir Tom's replacement is being sought in No10 and No11.

The Daily Telegraph understands that in primary contention for the role are three of the country's most senior civil

servants who each already heads a government department.

One is Antonia Romeo, permanent secretary at the Ministry of Justice. She developed a close working relationship with Ms Truss when they were both at the Department of International Trade.

Ms Romeo, 47, has experience of economic briefs, having led the Economic and Domestic Secretariat in the Cabinet Office in the past.

She has also struck trade deals when permanent secretary at the Department for International Trade and has business experience having been consul general in New York.

The second mandarin in contention is James Bowler, 49, the permanent secretary at the Department for International Trade.

He was tipped to become the Cabinet secretary – the most senior civil servant in the country – when Ms Truss took over but instead Simon Case was kept in the post.

Mr Bowler has spent much of his career at the Treasury, including working under Sir Tom, with past briefs as director general for public spending and director general for tax and welfare.

He also served as principal private



Antonia Romeo, permanent secretary at the Ministry of Justice, developed a close working relationship with Liz Truss at the Department of International Trade

NEVILLE ELLER FOR THE TELEGRAPH

secretary to both Lord Darling and Gordon Brown when they were chancellor, as well as more recently playing a senior role in the Covid-19 taskforce.

So many years at the Treasury would normally be seen as a plus for the role, but it could also be a weakness as Ms

Truss and Mr Kwarteng look for a break with the past.

The third candidate believed to be in the running is Tamara Finkelstein, the permanent secretary at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the department once led

by Ms Truss. The Prime Minister and her daughters have a running joke about the tea servers at Defra being the best in Whitehall.

Ms Finkelstein, 55, has Treasury experience – she began her career there as an economist and has written

speeches for past chancellors – and also wider Whitehall experience.

She was director general for community care at the Department of Health and Social Care, meaning she has an appreciation for the steep financial challenges faced by the NHS.

The sacking of Sir Tom, who headed the Treasury for six years, has triggered a fierce public debate among former senior civil servants and ex-ministers.

Some have chastised the new Prime Minister and Chancellor for sacking such a prominent civil servant; others have praised the action as in line with Ms Truss's Tory leadership campaign promise of a new approach to economic management.

Picking a successor is complicated by the fact that Mr Case will remain as Cabinet Secretary, having become the youngest ever occupant of the role under Boris Johnson.

Ms Romeo was interviewed as a rival candidate to Mr Case when he first got the job, while Mr Bowler was said to be in the running to succeed if Mr Case was moved on by Ms Truss.

Sir Tom was sacked just hours after Mr Kwarteng was appointed Chancellor on the day Ms Truss formally became Prime Minister earlier this month.



James Bowler, the permanent secretary at the Department for International Trade, was tipped to become the Cabinet secretary; Tamara Finkelstein, the permanent secretary at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, has written speeches for past chancellors



IN BRIEF

Coffee craving like that for wine

People get cravings for fizzy drinks and coffee in the same way as they yearn for a cold beer or glass of wine after a long day at work, scientists from Flinders University in Adelaide have said. The Australian research concluded that, the stronger one's cravings, the more likely they are to consume more of the desired item.

The findings were published in the journal *Eating Behaviours*.

Robbie beats Elvis for No1 albums

Robbie Williams has overtaken Elvis Presley to become the solo artist with the most UK number one albums. The former Take That singer, 48, said he was "so pleased" to secure his 14th chart-topper yesterday with *XXV*, a compilation that marks 25 years since he turned solo.

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Meteorite's water gives clue to origin of life on Earth

Analysis of chunk of rock that fell on a Gloucester driveway reveals close link to the world's oceans

By Sarah Knapton SCIENCE EDITOR

EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL water has been found in a British meteorite for the first time – and it closely resembles Earth's oceans, scientists have confirmed.

The Winchcombe meteorite landed

on a driveway in Gloucestershire in February last year, and was found so soon after impact that researchers believe it is one of the most pristine ever discovered.

The chunk of rock came from the asteroid belt between Jupiter and Mars, and, crucially, contains significant amounts of water that match closely to that on Earth, as well as amino acids – important building blocks of life.

Many scientists believe life began on Earth after it was bombarded by asteroids or comets containing life-giving

ingredients. But most that have been studied contain water of a different composition to that found on Earth.

The new research shows the Winchcombe meteorite is comprised of water that is very close to that in our oceans, suggesting that life was seeded on our planet by rocks travelling through space.

Dr Ashley King, of the Planetary Materials Group at the Natural History Museum and the UK Fireball Alliance told delegates at the British Science Festival in Leicester: "What's really exciting for us for us is that Winchcombe

meteorite was collected about 12 hours after landing, so the water that's in the rock hasn't been contaminated with the water that we have in our atmosphere. So it's basically really fresh."

"We're really confident when we measure the water that it is extra-terrestrial water. The composition of that water is very similar to the composition of the water in the Earth's oceans. So it's a really good piece of evidence that asteroids and bodies like Winchcombe were delivering really important contributions to the Earth's oceans."

"It's also got two per cent carbon and a significant fraction of that is organic materials, such as amino acids. If you want to start making DNA and stuff, you need amino acids, so all of these starting materials are locked up in the Winchcombe meteorite."

Although other meteorites have been found containing water that resembles water on Earth, scientists had never been sure whether they had picked it up while lying around after landing.

The Winchcombe meteorite was part of an asteroid that formed around

4.6 billion years ago from the leftover planet-building material of the early Solar System. But after a chunk was knocked off, it took around 300,000 years to reach Earth, scientists believe. It contains around 12 per cent water, which is locked up in minerals in a kind of mud. It was the first to be found in Britain since 1991.

Meanwhile, the meteor that was spotted earlier this week over the skies of Scotland and Northern Ireland is believed to have crashed in the Atlantic, near the Hebrides.

Sex-change drugs suitable at age of nine, say guidelines

By Hayley Dixon
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CHILDREN as young as nine who believe that they are transgender can be prescribed sex-change hormones, according to "best-practice" international guidelines.

The standards of care from The World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH), previous versions of which have underpinned NHS guidance on care, have removed minimum ages for children to receive puberty blockers, hormones and surgical interventions.

Instead, the organisation recommends that young people can be prescribed drugs from the first physical signs of puberty, which can begin at nine, and that surgery can be considered once an adolescent has been on "gender-affirming hormone therapy" for 12 months "if required".

Previous versions of the WPATH guidelines, last updated in 2011, recommended that children could be given puberty blockers as soon as puberty started, hormones at the "age of majority", which is 16 in most European countries, and most surgeries from 18.

Prof Kathleen Stock, the feminist campaigner, said: "The medical community internationally have got to stop outsourcing their brains to these organisations under the guise of medical best practice because they are clearly highly ideological and I would say totally irresponsible."

NHS England said an independent review of services for young people is under way and it will "not be changing" current rules that ban surgical interventions for under-18s.



Fare maidens The Glamcab Girls, inspired by the 1963 film Carry on Cabby, attend the first day of the Goodwood Revival in West Sussex. The three-day event features cars and motorcycles from the former racing circuit's heyday of 1948 to 1966.

Long-lasting birth control jab for men within a year

By Sarah Knapton

A MALE contraceptive jab which lasts 10 years – and prevents men passing on HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases – could be available within a year.

The injection would be simpler than a vasectomy, experts say, while also being reversible and less painful.

Final trials have been completed by researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology and experts say the jab, called Risug – reversible inhibition of sperm under guidance – could be available within 12 months.

However, researchers are concerned men will avoid the procedure. Dr Amanda Wilson, a public health psychologist at De Montfort University, carried out research which found men were very hesitant about the jab. Her team linked the hesitancy to a general decline in men opting for vasectomies.

At the British Science Festival in Leicester, Dr Wilson said: "For a male pill, we're still looking at between 30 and 50 years, but Risug is the male contraceptive that is closest to reaching the market. But we're seeing a significant decrease in vasectomies."

"Scientists don't know why. But until we get that social acceptability of vasectomy up globally, there's not going to be as much social acceptability for Risug."

It works by injecting a gel cocktail into the vas deferens. When it comes into contact with sperm, it ruptures their tails so they are incapable of fertilising an egg, even though the semen is still expelled.

The procedure takes a few minutes, and is reversible with an injection of water and baking soda.

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**Then at 10am join Alastair Stewart,
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the State Funeral.**

All of us at GB News join the nation in paying our respects.

French have the right to be idle, says Green MP

We must fight for breaks, politician insists after Communist Party chief pours scorn on handouts

By Henry Samuel in Paris

FRENCH people have "a right to idleness", an influential Green MP has said amid a row over the Left's approach to work.

In an interview with French media, Sandrine Rousseau argued that working hard was "essentially a Right-wing value" and that taking breaks and being less productive was a far healthier objective for the Left.

She made the comments in response to Fabien Roussel, leader of France's Communist Party, who last Friday called on his camp to reclaim hard work, rather than "handouts", as a Left-wing value.

Mr Roussel, appearing at Fête de l'Humanité, an annual Leftist festival, in Essonne, south of Paris, said: "The Left must defend work and not be the Left of handouts and social welfare."

The French Left introduced the 35-hour working week - a move that conservatives say crippled the country's economy. France has one of the most generous unemployment benefit systems in the world and state spending eats up 59 per cent of its budget.

The 2018 Yellow Vest revolt was in part a protest by the working poor against being taxed to the hilt while others lived as well or better on benefits.

The Communist chief's words led to criticism from the New Popular, Environmental and Social Union (Nupes), an alliance of Leftists and Greens, that forms the biggest opposition in parliament, and infuriated Ms Rousseau, a self-styled "ecofeminist" viewed by many in her own party as too radical.

"I would have followed him on sharing working time, reducing working time, a four-day week, but to hold up work as the only value of the Left is not possible and particularly not for a Communist," she told France Info.

"I would remind you that Marx denounced the exploitation of workers and the fact that company bosses made

profits from work," she said. "We have the right to idleness. We have the right to change professions. We also have the right to take breaks in our life and we need to regain time, a sense of sharing and a four-day week."

"[Roussel is] not talking about that at all. Sorry to say this but the work ethic is a Right-wing value."

Left-wing allies argue that the row is a gift to conservatives and Emmanuel Macron, France's centrist president, who has brought unemployment to its lowest level in 15 years and whose government is preparing to introduce reforms on pensions and unemployment benefits.

Jean-Luc Mélenchon, the Nupes leader and ex-presidential candidate, called on the Left to "stop moaning".

"All that matters is the class struggle," he insisted, adding that benefits were

To hold up work as the only value of the Left is not possible... the work ethic is a Right-wing value'

not handouts but rights accrued by working.

The opposition Right reacted with glee at the spat. Alexandra Dublanche, the Right-wing vice-president of Paris region, said: "To be this disconnected from the French who get up early to work and those who aspire to find another job is flabbergasting."

"And who finances this 'right to idleness' while we are at it? Those who work hard," she added.

Jordan Bardella, interim leader of the hard-right National Rally party, said Ms Rousseau was "mired in wokeist madness".

This is not the first run-in between Ms Rousseau and the Communist leader, who ran for president this year with an unlikely pledge to make the country "happy" again.

The two clashed this summer after Ms Rousseau claimed that cooking red meat on the barbecue was an outmoded "symbol of virility" that should be stamped out, arguing that men's meaty diet emitted 41 per cent more greenhouse gases than the food women eat.

Lending an ear Emmanuel Macron, the French president, speaks to his wife Brigitte during a visit to Gueret, central France, as part of the European Heritage Days initiative, during which the couple visited communities and met residents.

Boy swept from mother's arms as several die in Italian floods

By Our Foreign Staff

AT LEAST nine people have died in flash floods in Italy and four remain missing, including a boy who was swept out of his mother's arms.

The floods left towns and villages in the central region of Marche covered in thick mud and detritus, with cars overtaken by rivers that broke their banks.

"It was as if the wall of a dam broke," said Riccardo Pasqualini, the mayor of Barbara, one of the affected towns.

"There was a terrific noise and then a wave of water. It was not a flood, it was a tsunami."

Around 16 inches of rain fell in a few

hours - the equivalent of around a third of the rain that would normally fall in an entire year, officials said.

One of those missing is an eight-year-old boy, who was pulled away from his mother's embrace as they attempted to get out of their car.

"There were moments of terror, with really extraordinary quantities of water," said Fabrizio Curcio, from Italy's civil protection agency.

Residents took refuge on the roofs of buildings or clung on to trees as the flood waters surged through villages.

Dozens of people were treated for hypothermia and injuries, and firefighters used dinghies to rescue some of

1,600

Number of extreme weather events such as lightning, heavy rain and tornadoes that Italy has experienced so far this year

those affected. Carlo Manfredi, the mayor of Castellone di Suasa, said the town faced an "apocalyptic situation".

Italy has experienced a drought for months, parching the land and making it unable to absorb the heavy rain, causing flooding. Climatologists say parts of the Mediterranean, including Italy, are

undergoing a tropicalisation process, with heatwaves followed by violent thunderstorms and heavy rain.

Italy has experienced more than 1,600 extreme weather events this year, five times the number of a decade ago.

These include lightning strikes, heavy rains, tornadoes and hail, according to Coldiretti, a national association for farmers.

The multiplication of extreme events has caused more than €6 billion (£5.3 billion) of damage to agriculture in 2022, amounting to 10 per cent of national production, said the organisation, adding that this was the consequence of climate change.

Banks shut in Lebanon after five heists in a day to access savings

By Lila Randall

A LEBANESE activist group has promised to help cash-strapped citizens carry out bank heists to access their own savings, as people take increasingly desperate measures to get around the crisis-hit frozen banking system.

The country's banks said yesterday that they would be closing for three days after at least five armed robberies were carried out in one day.

No one appears to have been hurt so far, although there were reports of gunshots fired during one incident.

Most heists are being cheered on by crowds gathered at the banks who are lauding these citizens-turned-robbers as heroes.

Among them is Abed Soubra, who entered a branch of BLOM bank in the capital Beirut's Tariq el-Jiddeh neighbourhood yesterday morning holding a gun and demanding his \$300,000 (£260,000) in savings.

He was still locked in the branch hours later, telling a news agency by phone that he had handed over his gun to security forces and just wanted his money. "I'll stay here three, four, five days - I won't move until I get my deposit," he said.

Mr Soubra said he refused an offer by the bank to get part of his savings in the local Lebanese currency, which has

become close to worthless owing to rampant inflation.

He was cheered on by a large crowd of people gathered outside, including Bassam al-Sheikh Hussein, who carried out a hold-up last month to get his savings from his bank.

"We're going to keep seeing this happen as long as people have money inside. What do you want them to do?"

"They don't have another solution," said Mr Hussein. He got about \$30,000

90pc

How much the Lebanese pound has fallen in value on the black market, while poverty and unemployment have soared

from his savings of \$200,000.

Depositors' Outcry, an advocacy group, said people were at breaking point amid an economic crisis that has pushed hundreds of thousands into poverty and left many struggling to pay their bills.

"We're organising more than this, and you have no choice," said Alaa Khorchid, the head of the group. "People's rights are sacred."

Other incidents yesterday included a man in his 50s accompanied by his son

holding up a Byblos Bank in the southern city of Ghazieh and a man armed with a pellet gun storming a branch of LGB Bank in Ramlet al-Baida in Beirut.

So far "robbers" have been arrested and released without charge. The interior minister called for an emergency meeting yesterday.

Lebanon has been hit by one of the world's worst economic crises since a financial crash in 2019.

Its currency has lost more than 90 per cent of its value on the black market, while poverty and unemployment have soared.

Banks were investigated for sending large sums of money out of the country for senior officials and politicians at a time when ordinary citizens were blocked from making foreign transfers.

The wave of heists intensified after Depositors' Outcry accompanied Sali Hafez at a bank on Wednesday, where they staged a hold-up with her nephew's plastic gun to access savings to pay for her sister's cancer treatment.

They doused a BLOM bank in Beirut in gasoline and threatened to set it alight as they demanded \$12,000 plus the equivalent of about \$1,000 in Lebanese pounds.

Ms Hafez said she had \$20,000 in savings trapped in the bank, and had considered selling her kidney.

Kanye school swears parents to secrecy

By Josie Ensor US CORRESPONDENT

KANYE WEST has opened a private religious school where parents are required to sign non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) and children have lessons in a form of freerunning and "enrichment".

The controversial rapper and designer aims to create a "new generation of leaders" through classes at Donda Academy, named after his late mother, in Simi Valley, California.

The Christian school reportedly opened to 100 pupils aged between five and 18 last month, but with NDAs in place little is known about the school.

Even Simi Valley's community newspaper noted in a June article that it was unable to reach anyone from the academy for comment.

The syllabus includes visual arts, film studies, singing, basketball and parkour - running, climbing, vaulting, jumping and rolling through an urban landscape.

Less typical courses include fashion,

Japanese and restorative justice instruction. A selling point for the school is its choir programme, which looks to be tied into West's exclusive Sunday Service gatherings. Auditions for the group were held earlier this year.

Those enrolled appear to be the chil-

Kanye West has turned his attention from the music industry to education

dren of the artist's friends and figures in the entertainment industry.

Brienne Campbell, 28, is listed as the head teacher who also leads the choir, but does not appear to have any academic qualifications, according to *Rolling Stone*.

West plans to open several more

schools across the United States. Annual fees are believed to be set at \$15,000 (£13,000) but a statement on its website claims "everyone is welcome to apply regardless of financial situation".

Malik Yusef, a producer and long-time collaborator of West's, told *Rolling Stone*: "This man always wanted to create a school in his mama's name... Look at what we're doing with the choir and the fashion in school - I don't think there's a venture capitalist or anybody that's had a vision this clear on what education can look like for you."

West has complained on Instagram that his four children with Kim Kardashian would not be attending the academy, seemingly suggesting his estranged wife had refused to remove them from their current schools.

Questions have been raised about West's mental health. He was diagnosed with bipolar disorder in 2017 before running for US president in 2020.

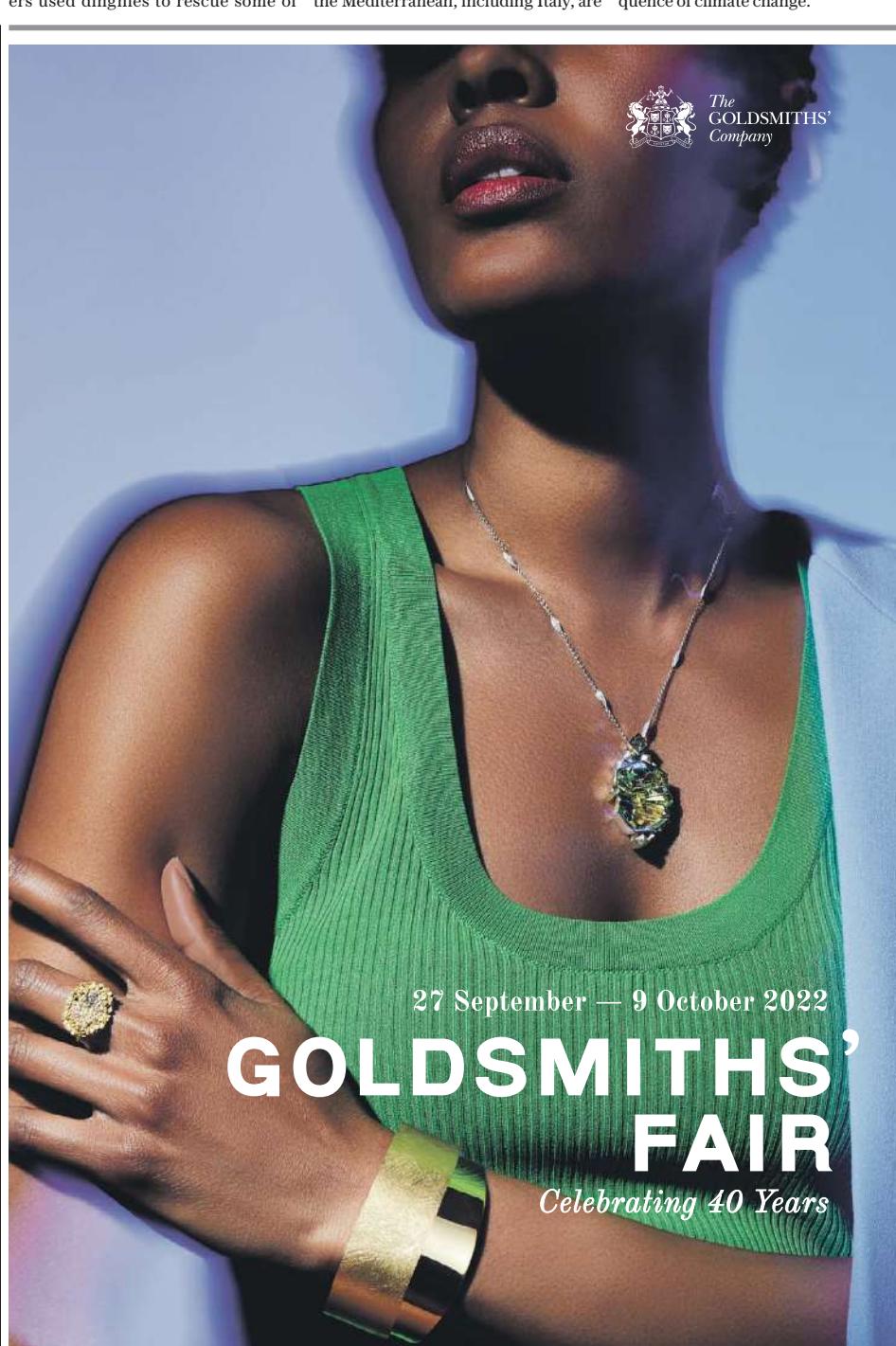


Boy swept from mother's arms as several die in Italian floods


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World news

This is not an era of war, India's prime minister tells Putin

Narendra Modi publicly chides Russian president over Ukraine invasion at meeting of major leaders

By Nataliya Vasilyeva in Samarkand

Vladimir Putin was yesterday publicly censured over his invasion of Ukraine by India's prime minister.

In a rare moment of confrontation for the Russian president, Narendra Modi reminded him he had warned him about the need to end the war as the two met at a summit in Uzbekistan's capital, Samarkand.

"I know that today's era is not an era of war, and I have spoken to you on the phone about this," Mr Modi told Mr Putin in televised remarks on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's (SCO) conference.

Hearing the comments, Mr Putin pursed his lips, glanced at Mr Modi then looked down at his notes.

In reply, he said he "understood" his concerns and wished to end the war as soon as possible but claimed Ukraine had rejected the opportunity to take part in negotiations.

Diplomatic relations with Delhi are increasingly important for Russia as India has become the second biggest buyer of Russian oil, behind China.

The Russian leader has been forced

on to the back foot at the summit of leaders from across Asia where he was hoping to rally support from nations who have not joined the West's sanction regime.

On Thursday he also told Xi Jinping, China's president, that he understood his "concerns" about the war in Ukraine that has killed thousands and upended global markets.

Observers have noted that Mr Putin has lacked his typical air of superiority at the summit.

On Thursday, he was forced to stand and wait for the president of Kyrgyzstan to arrive for their televised meeting, and yesterday Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the Turkish president, left him standing in front of the cameras for several minutes.

Mr Erdogan, who has made several attempts to mediate between Russia and Ukraine and hosted ceasefire talks in March, was expected to try to persuade Mr Putin to sit down with Volodymyr Zelensky, the Ukrainian president, for peace talks.

Mr Putin told Russian reporters at the end of his visit to Uzbekistan yes-

terday that no such discussion took place. Instead he sought to portray Moscow as a victim of Western machinations during a press conference with Kremlin-approved reporters.

"They just won't do it," he said of the Ukrainians' stance on peace talks.

"Mr Zelensky has said publicly... that he's not ready and he won't talk with Russia. So he's not ready? Oh well!"

Asked about staggering military losses in the south of Ukraine in recent weeks, Mr Putin insisted that the Russian conquest was proceeding as planned.

"Our main goal is to liberate all of the Donbas. This work is continuing," he said.

He made no mention of the retaken areas of Kherson that just weeks before the Ukrainian counter-offensive were poised for a Russian "referendum" on a possible annexation.

Mr Putin also ominously threatened to target more of Ukraine's civilian infrastructure if Kyiv keeps on ordering attacks on military targets in the south of Russia.

He claimed that Russian intelligence foiled "terrorist plots" to attack areas near nuclear power stations in Russia but did not give further details.

"Our response will be even stronger if the situation continues to develop the way it has been going," he said, referring to Russia's recent retaliatory strikes on Ukrainian infrastructure including a dam in Mr Zelensky's home town.

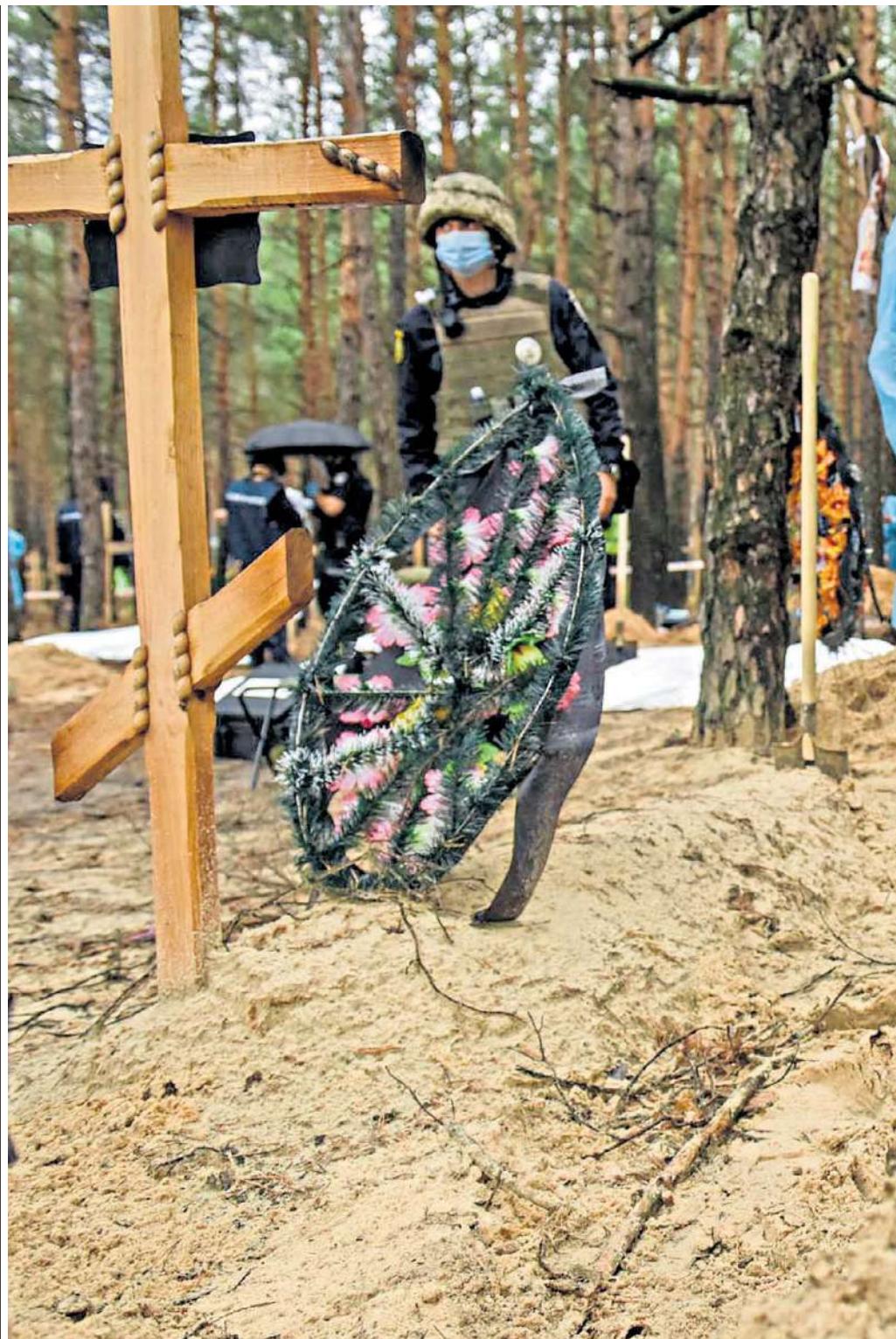
Ukrainian officials yesterday mocked Mr Putin's perceived isolation at the summit and made fun of his claims to seek peace after unleashing war on Ukraine in February.

"This is the last autumn for Russian autocrats," Mihailo Podolyak, an adviser to Mr Zelensky, tweeted. "The 'solution to the conflict' is very simple: an immediate withdrawal of Russian troops from all of Ukraine."

In separate comments at the summit, Mr Xi said the world had entered a period of turmoil and that his fellow leaders should join together to suppress "colour revolutions", a term used to describe pro-democracy movements such as those seen in Hong Kong.

Mr Xi stayed away from dinner attended by 11 heads of state in line with his delegation's strict Covid-19 policy.

He was also absent from a group photograph of the world leaders.



Juliet Samuel: Page 21

Himars rockets bombard Russian headquarters in Kherson

By Joe Barnes

UKRAINE yesterday struck Russia's headquarters in occupied Kherson with a barrage of long-range Himars missiles during a meeting of top officials.

Video footage filmed in the aftermath of the strike showed smoke billowing

from the roof of the Court of Appeal in the centre of the city, while citizens fled the area.

Pro-Kremlin collaborators had been meeting in the venue, which served as the headquarters of the Moscow-installed occupation authorities in the area, when the rockets hit, according to Russian state media.

Kirill Stremousov, the Russian-installed deputy leader of Kherson, said the Ukrainian strike directly hit his office, with five US-provided Himars rockets smashing into the area.

The attack appeared to mark a shift in Kyiv's strategy, striking hard at the civilian command hubs of occupation forces that have so far been spared from targeting with long-range munitions.

It came as an explosion in the city of Luhansk killed the prosecutor general of the self-proclaimed Luhansk People's Republic, the Moscow-backed separatist movement in the eastern Donbas.

Western officials have claimed one of the "unheralded successes" of the recent counter-offensives, across the Kherson and Kharkiv regions, had been

Himars strikes



disrupting Moscow's Russification attempts in its occupied territories.

Alla Barkhatnova, the Kremlin-installed labour minister for Kherson, was injured in the blast, but made a lucky escape when she was shielded from shrapnel by a co-worker. Her driver was one of the collaborators killed, she added.

Ukraine's armed forces refused to take credit for the strike, which was branded a "vile act of terror" by pro-Russian officials in the city.

Despite Ukrainian silence, the strike appeared to use precise intelligence of the meeting, which was attended by Kremlin-installed military and civilian officials from across the

'There was smoke and ringing in my ears. I came round when someone pulled me out. A young guy dragged me from the ruins. I'm alive, and back at work.'

'We are tallying our staff,' Ekaterina Gubareva, the deputy head of Kherson's Russian-controlled city hall, who was caught up in the blast, wrote on the Telegram messaging app.

The Russian-appointed deputy mayor of Berdyansk, in the southern Zaporizhzhia region, and his wife, who was in charge of organising a referendum to join the Russian Federation, were also assassinated near their home.

Oleg Boyko and his wife, Lyudmila, became the fourth and fifth pro-Russian victims when they were killed yesterday in a blast near to their garage, according to local officials.

The attacks will likely unnerve Russia's local proxies in the war-torn country as pro-Kremlin officials are increasingly targeted by Ukraine's armed forces and pro-Kyiv partisans.

German army will be strongest in Europe, vows Scholz

By Jorg Luyken in Berlin

THE German army has spent too long drilling wells and stemming floods, Olaf Scholz said yesterday, as he promised to turn his military into "the best equipped" on the Continent.

Speaking at an army conference, the German chancellor admitted that his country had sustained an illusion that it was surrounded only by friends, with harmful results for its armed forces.

Mr Scholz, 64, said that "for a long time our country avoided a true prioritisation of the tasks of its army".

He said that, while the country was grateful to soldiers for drilling wells, stemming floods and helping with Covid vaccinations, "that is not their core mission", which should be "to defend freedom in Europe".

He said he aims to turn the German military into "the central pillar" of European conventional defences.

Days after Russia invaded Ukraine last February, Mr Scholz announced a "new era" in German defence spending, pledging €100 billion (£87 billion) to modernise its forces. However, yesterday's speech by Mr Scholz disappointed those who had expected him to approve the supply of battle tanks to Kyiv.

Refusenik troops shamed as photos posted on WC walls

By Nataliya Vasilyeva

PHOTOGRAPHS of Russian soldiers refusing to fight in Ukraine have been plastered above urinals in an attempt to shame them.

A short video shared on the Telegram messaging app showed the pictures of at least five young officers in military uniforms hanging above lavatories.

"They are a disgrace to the Guards' Unit," a caption under the portraits reads. Despite this, there was no confirmation of what unit the soldiers belonged to or when the video was recorded.

What appeared to be an official document drafted by commanders from Russia's Eastern Military District was shared in the same Telegram post alongside the footage with a stamp reading: "Refused to perform a combat mission. Prone to betrayal!"

Meanwhile, another video emerged online of an apparent fighter from the Wagner group of mercenaries brawling with Rosgvardia national guards at a hotel in Voronezh, Russia, after telling them he served his country in Ukraine.

Rob Lee, an expert in Russian defence at the Foreign Policy Research Institute, said there is a growing sense

of resentment among Wagner members and other volunteers as they fought in Ukraine while the "state didn't fully mobilise". This could become a "greater problem going forward", Mr Lee said.

Western and Ukrainian officials believe Russia is struggling to find enough volunteers to replenish its depleted army.

Vladimir Putin, Russia's president, has so far refused a nationwide mobilisation to bolster his forces as he continues to call the conflict a "special military operation" rather than a war.

A string of successful Ukrainian counter-offensives has sapped morale among Russian troops and prompted desertions, weakening Russia's position further as it approaches the seven-month anniversary of its invasion.

Moscow last week deployed helicopters over Ukraine in an effort to round up soldiers who had fled their position to escape Kyiv's counteroffensives.

British military officials recently reported that Russian troops were experiencing "morale and discipline issues" in Ukraine.

An intelligence update, the Ministry of Defence said combat fatigue, high casualty rates and payment problems were the soldiers' main grievances.



Photos of at least five Russian soldiers have appeared over urinals

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Bodies of Ukrainians at mass burial site show signs of torture

Zelensky promises war crimes investigation to establish how 450 soldiers and civilians came to die

By Roland Oliphant and Sergio Olmos in Kharkiv

UKRAINIAN investigators began exhuming more than 400 bodies from a burial site in Izyum yesterday, some of which had their hands tied and bore signs of torture.

President Volodymyr Zelensky promised a war crimes investigation after authorities said there were at least two burial sites containing bodies of people who had died since the war began in February.

"As of today, there are 450 dead people buried. But there are others, separate burials of many people. Tortured people. Entire families in certain territories," he said.

Asked if there was evidence of war crimes, he replied: "All this is there."

Mr Zelensky added that there would be "investigative commissions with international partners".

He said: "There is some evidence, and assessments are being conducted, Ukrainian and international, and this is very important for us - for the world to recognise this."

The graves dug into the sandy earth of a pine forest at a cemetery on the outskirts of the city in the Kharkiv region are marked by wooden crosses.

Police said there were 445 individual graves at the site and a pit containing 17 bodies, believed to be those of soldiers.

Most of the graves are individual and marked with wooden crosses. Many bear the names and dates of the person in black marker pen.

Others have only a number, the letters VSU - denoting a soldier in the Ukrainian armed forces - or no identification at all. A sign at the pit said: "Ukrainian army, 17 people. Izyum morgue."

According to Oleg Kotenko, the government official heading the search for missing persons nationwide, a family with a young child was buried there. "They were killed. There are witnesses from the same building. They saw what happened and buried these people here," he said. "The graves without names are for those found dead in the street."

The United Nations said it hoped to send a team to determine the circumstances of the deaths. Residents played

down comparisons with Bucha, the town near Kyiv where Russian soldiers reportedly executed people systematically.

A mass grave there contained the bodies of dozens of civilians.

"Those mass graves were made by the Russians. They just put victims of their own shelling in there. They took a bulldozer, dug a big trench and buried all the bodies without identification," said one man who remained in Izyum throughout the occupation.

"There was an option for those who stayed here to bury relatives in the cemetery in the traditional way, but only if they had enough money."

"Because of Russian attacks and shelling before they took Izyum, there were a lot of unburied bodies just in the streets. All the bodies in the streets were taken to that mass grave by the Russians within 30 days of taking Izyum. They also buried bodies there of people found in rubble."

But there were also troubling signs of more deliberate killing.

Oleh Synhubov, governor of the Kharkiv region, told reporters yesterday that at one of the burial sites bodies had been exhumed with their hands tied behind their backs.

Serhiy Bolvinov, lead investigator for the Kharkiv regional police, said some of the victims had died more recently and showed signs of being strangled.

Witnesses reported at least two exhumed bodies with their hands tied. One had what seemed to be a noose around its neck.

Russia denies targeting civilians in what it calls its "special military operation" in Ukraine and described accusations of war crimes as provocations.

It took Russia a month to capture Izyum in a battle that lasted all of March and involved artillery, mortars and air strikes. The invaders' defeat was rapid.

Volodymyr Matsokin, the deputy mayor, told local media after the city fell on April 1 that 90 per cent of the buildings had been damaged or destroyed.

Many of the wooden crosses showed dates of death that coincide with the battle in March. Pro-Russian media published photographs of the burial site in April, which would fit with the account of interments after the battle.

It was not immediately clear how the soldiers in the mass grave died.

Antony Blinken, the US secretary of state, said Russia was probably responsible for war crimes. "This is part, horrifically, of an ongoing story whenever we see the Russian tide recede from the parts of Ukraine it's occupied," he said.

OLEG PETRASUK/PA-EFE/SHUTTERSTOCK

Investigators exhume bodies from the mass burial site outside the recaptured city of Izyum, in the north-eastern Kharkiv region

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World news

Migrants from Mexico may be sent around US for processing

By Nick Allen in Washington

JOE BIDEN is coming under pressure from his own officials to send thousands of illegal immigrants detained at the Mexican border to cities across America and even north towards Canada.

With homeland security agents on the southern border encountering more than 200,000 migrants a month, officials have told the president to adopt a strategy of "interior processing" in which many would be flown or bussed to other parts of the United States.

Republican state governors have already taken matters into their own hands, with Ron DeSantis, the Florida governor, this week flying two planes full of migrants to Martha's Vineyard, the holiday island in Massachusetts.

Department of Homeland Security officials have reportedly set out for the White House a series of options to manage overcrowding at the border. They included flying migrants to facilities at the northern border with Canada.

Migrants could also be sent to cities including Los Angeles, where shelters could be set up.

Homeland security officials argued that the process would be more organised than the random way in which Republican governors from states including Texas and Arizona have been sending migrants north by bus.

The number of migrant crossings at the Mexican border is nearly 8,000 per day, and the White House has set 9,000 as a level where "interior processing" would begin.

They would be taken to other cities and wait there for hearings in immigration courts.

Homeland security officials suggested the mechanics of chartering planes and organising shelters should start now, but there had been friction with the White House over taking that step, NBC News reported.



In the driving seat Children gesture during a gathering of low-rider car enthusiasts who cruised through the streets of Mexico City as part of the celebrations for the country's independence day.

Woman, 22, dies after morality police beating in Iran

By James Rothwell
MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

A YOUNG Iranian woman has died after being beaten by "morality police" for not wearing a headscarf, according to witnesses.

Mahsa Amini, 22, was taken inside a police van and allegedly attacked by Iran's guardian patrols. She fell into a coma shortly afterwards. Iranian media reported last night that she died from her injuries.

Wearing a headscarf is compulsory in

the Islamic Republic, and those caught without one risk being imprisoned for up to two months and fined.

Iranian police deny beating the woman and have instead claimed that she fell ill from a "heart problem", which the family denies, pointing out that she had no pre-existing medical conditions.

Footage has surfaced online appearing to show the morality police dragging the woman to the ground and taking her away, as well as an audio clip that records the moment that an alleged female relative screamed and wailed in hospital

after being informed of the woman's death.

Iranians have been tweeting with the hashtag "Murder Patrol" in response. Others pointed out that Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's supreme leader, once gave a speech, which has resurfaced and been widely shared, in which he says women who dress immodestly should be punished.

Ms Amini's brother, Kiareh, told the Iran Wire that he went to collect her from the police station, but instead she was put into an ambulance. He said:

"There were only two hours between her arrest and being taken to hospital. I have nothing to lose. I will not let this end without making a noise."

Tehran police said in a statement that Ms Amini was merely taken to the police station for "explanation and instruction".

"She suddenly suffered a heart problem while in the company of other guided people... she was immediately taken to the hospital with the cooperation of police and emergency services," they said.

The incident is likely to exacerbate

already fragile relations between the people of Iran and its ruling elite, amid crippling western sanctions and sporadic mass protests against the regime.

Last night, protests were held outside the hospital where Ms Amini had been taken. Nazanin Boniadi, a British-Iranian actress and activist, said: "How many innocent young lives must be brutally robbed before we all rise?"

The hijab has been compulsory for women since the 1979 Islamic revolution. Some have tried to protest against the rule by removing their veils in pub-

'Luxury people smugglers' use diplomatic IDs and private jets

By James Crisp

A GANG used private jets and fake diplomatic passports to smuggle migrants into Europe from Turkey, police said yesterday.

Five members of the gang were arrested in raids in Belgium and Italy on Tuesday, the Europol agency said. The alleged criminals charged up to £17,500 per person smuggled. Migrants, mostly Kurds from Iran or Iraq, boarded the private planes with the false passports.

The flights were usually bound for the Caribbean but Europol said the migrants would never get there.

"During stopovers at different European airports, including in Austria, France and Germany, the migrants left the plane, disposed of their false passports and systematically applied for asylum," the Hague-based agency said.

It is believed that between October and December 2020, at least five smuggling operations took place in five different European countries.

The migrants were given fake diplomatic papers from the Caribbean nation of St Kitts and Nevis before setting off from Turkey and making unexpected stopovers in Italy, France, Germany, Austria or Belgium.

Authorities seized two private jets, a high-end car, £70,000 and equipment used to make fake identity documents. A total of £151,400 was frozen in Italy.

Two of the arrests were made in Belgium and three in Italy during raids that involved searches at six houses in Italy and one in Belgium.

Two other suspects were reported to be on the run.

The gang is also suspected of issuing false cheques, scamming airlines in an attempt to build its own fleet and defrauding hotels by not paying bills.

The suspects face accusations of people smuggling, document fraud and money laundering.

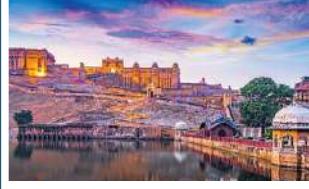
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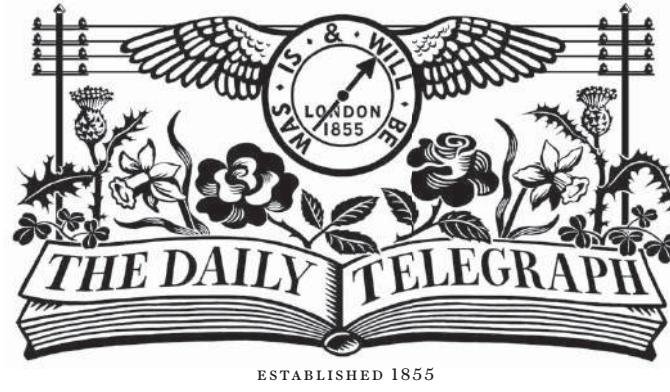
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Comment



The future of the monarchy is secure

In our digital age, it is easy to worry that the virtues that Britons once prized – stoicism, mettle, dedication and patience – have been discarded and replaced by other, lesser qualities. That superficiality and narcissism now dominate the place in society where substance and selflessness once stood. That national pride, and the steady satisfaction of shared endeavour and community feeling, have been wholly usurped by solipsism and the trivial validation of social media “likes”.

But for those who are concerned about the state of the nation today, the astonishing line of mourners waiting their turn to honour their late monarch ought to have provided some degree of reassurance that the essential qualities which endured in the person of Queen Elizabeth still endure in her people, too.

The queue of those waiting yesterday reached its capacity, such was the determination of Britons to mirror in some small way the faithful duty of Queen Elizabeth to them. Before her death, the Queen's great age could have suggested that quiet stoicism was a relic of another era. But today we see that huge numbers of Britons – of all generations – feel compelled to reaffirm their own individual bond to something greater, even at the cost of countless hours of discomfort and delay.

Many more will come to London over the weekend, hoping perhaps that, if they cannot find a place in the queue to bow their heads before her coffin at Westminster Hall, they may do so on the streets on the day of her funeral.

Dispiritingly, if predictably, there are voices on the Left demanding a debate about the future of the monarchy at this time, crying foul over cost or, in the words of Jon Lansman, the Labour activist and former member of its national executive committee, arguing that “pomp and ceremony are

designed to promote monarchism, affirm the status quo, conceal the power and influence of a ruling elite”.

Far from it. The constitutional monarchy, floating above, yet not interfering in parliamentary affairs, has provided an unrivalled shield for people here against such overmighty elites, whose whims and demagoguery have so afflicted the citizens of other, less fortunate countries.

Perhaps, apart from the late Queen's many personal qualities, that is why so many Britons have turned out to queue, and will turn out sombrely to stand as her cortège passes on Monday. They know the debt they owe not just to her, but to the institution that she so nobly represented. Their weight of numbers, their grief, their patience and respect are the most eloquent answers to those who say that the monarchy is a question that the public wishes to debate.

Bold pro-growth reforms

Next Friday will see the Chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, deliver a mini-Budget that will set the tone for the kind of government Liz Truss intends to lead. That is why it is imperative that it is bold and sticks firmly to the growth-promoting agenda the Prime Minister espoused in her campaign for the Conservative leadership.

Already, the Left is carping about a possible move to reverse the cap on bankers' bonuses. It is always easier to play class war than fix Britain's long-term, underlying economic malaise. So the Prime Minister and her Chancellor will need to be brave and pursue novel, even occasionally unpopular measures. They should take heart from the fact that orthodoxy and timidity have got us nowhere.

They should indeed scrap the bonus cap, as well as the rise

in National Insurance and increase in corporation tax. A reworking of perennially unpopular business rates should also be considered. And if Mr Kwarteng really wants to signal the advent of a new pro-growth era, nothing would be better than unveiling now the reduction in income tax which Rishi Sunak had earmarked as a pre-election boon.

While the details of the cost of the huge energy bailout will attract short-term headlines, it is these other measures that may come to be seen, long-term, as most significant. For if Ms Truss's administration can finally solve Britain's growth problem, she will have succeeded where countless others have failed. The reward for doing so will be great: if everyone is getting richer, not only will few be bothered about bonuses one way or another, but she will also reap a political windfall of her own.

Gifs that stopped giving

The company behind gifs – those little snippets of video matter that people deploy on social media – has deliberately quoted the opinion of younger users who describe the intrusive items as “cringe”. Why are gifs so annoying and underwhelming, like watching your father dance? Certainly, when used as a device to give reaction to a comment they are hackneyed and second hand. They are worse than those tiresome verbal exclamations “OMG!” or “Wow. Just wow.” It doesn't help that the libraries of stock responses used by gif-fans often feature characters from American sitcoms of which we know nothing. By the time, maybe quite soon, that gifs become a piece of history perhaps the still hot debate over their pronunciation – with a hard “g” like *gift* or with a soft one like *jiff* – will finally have been resolved.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

The world will honour Queen Elizabeth, who kept her vow to serve a family of nations

SIR – While touring South Africa in 1947, the then Princess Elizabeth made a wonderful broadcast speech on her 21st birthday, dedicating her whole life, “whether it be long or short”, to the service of “our great imperial family to which we all belong”.

This remarkable act was not only for the people of Britain, but also for those of Commonwealth countries across the world. It concluded with an emotional recognition that she “shall not have strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in with me as I now invite you to do ... God help me to make good my vow and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it.”

In 1953, having camped overnight on the Mall, cheering as Queen Elizabeth waved from her golden coach, and later watching on television as the awesome coronation majesty enveloped this small, vulnerable woman, we wondered if her vow would prove impossible to keep. Now, in September 2022, all doubt has been removed, as the nation, the Commonwealth and the world unite to mourn, cheer and honour the most amazing Elizabeth the Great.

Allan Bamford
Sawtry, Cambridgeshire

SIR – Queen Elizabeth had an extraordinary international reach and grew into a global icon. She strengthened Britain's position in international relations. The reasons for this were a combination of the different roles she played, the length of her reign and her natural flair for diplomacy.

Above all, the Queen had an international footprint, as sovereign of 15 countries and head of 54 nations of the Commonwealth. The longevity of her reign meant that she travelled to more than 100 countries and hosted more than 150 state visits – often the highlight of a foreign leader's period in office.

She was well versed in international diplomacy, attending every Commonwealth Heads of Government

Meeting from Ottawa in 1973 until Perth in 2011. She hosted many other summits in Britain, including famously the G20 in 2009, Nato in 2019 and the G7 in Cornwall last year.

All of this boosted Britain's international standing and our soft power. Brian Mulroney, the former Canadian prime minister, put it well when he remarked: “The Queen knows when she enters the room she is the most compelling head of state there. She is number one, even though her country is not number one.”

Zaki Cooper
London NW4

SIR – Watching the BBC live stream from overseas, I get overwhelmed by the great British people filing past the late Queen's coffin, from all walks of life, from all kinds of ethnic backgrounds, all united by such solemn dignity.

Robin Cooper
Indianapolis, United States

SIR – On September 15 I was fortunate to go to London for the lying in state of our much loved and respected late Queen. I count it as the greatest privilege of my life to have witnessed the scene in the magnificence of Westminster Hall.

I would like to pay tribute to the excellent organisation of the event. The management of the queue was masterful. Everyone who played a part – the police, the clergy, the security, the first aiders and the Scouts – did so with total helpfulness and courtesy. I have never felt prouder to be British.

Jane Moth
Stone, Staffordshire

SIR – I also proudly lined the route for the state funeral of King George VI in 1952 (Letters, September 16).

I was at RAF Bridgnorth doing basic training, having been called up for national service. One day our squad of 60 was marched into a hangar for arms drill, and any mistakes resulted in dismissal from the squad until only 24 were left.

We had no idea what was happening until we were told that we would be lining the route for the state funeral.

Feeding so many thousands of troops was such a logistical problem that the only way they could give us breakfast was at 11pm the night before.

Terence Aston
Malvern, Worcestershire

SIR – The funeral of Sir Winston Churchill was the last such occasion at which a Naval gun carriage party, under the command of the captain of the Gunnery School, was required.

I cannot personally vouch for this, as I was serving on HMS Victoria in the Far East Fleet, though I had it on very good authority. Competition to be chosen was intense among the ship's company of HMS Excellent on Whale Island, and many gunnery instructors



Princess Elizabeth, as she was then, during a Royal Tour to South Africa in 1947

– usually chief or petty officers – requested permission to be “disrated” to acting petty officer for one day in order to resume “square rig” and be part of the gun crew.

It was both a mark of respect and a great tribute to Sir Winston, under whose leadership many such senior rates had begun their service in the Royal Navy.

William Nicol Gent
Richmond, Surrey

SIR – I had been keeping bees for more than 30 years, and had three healthy colonies, when my wife sadly died. I did not think of telling the bees (Letters, September 15), but when I next looked the hives were empty. The same thing happened to a friend with bees whose husband died.

DL Shears
Southampton

SIR – On Thursday my husband and I made our very first Dubonnet cocktail in memory of our beloved Queen Elizabeth.

It is an amazingly uplifting drink, though perhaps just a small part of her legacy to us all.

Angela Saunders
Otterbourne, Hampshire

SIR – I look forward to King Charles's leaky pen (report, September 14) appearing in an auction room, raising thousands of pounds for his charities.

Simon Davie
London SW1

NHS cancellations

SIR – Matthew Taylor (Letters, September 16), the chief executive of the NHS Confederation, says Covid boosters will continue to be given on the day of Queen Elizabeth's funeral. He may be interested to know that my husband's booster appointment has been cancelled.

Perhaps the right hand should know what the left hand is doing.

Marguerite Beard-Gould
Walmer, Kent

SIR – On September 5 my son received a letter from the hospital that had the postmark September 1. The letter was dated August 11 and was for an appointment on August 25.

A missed appointment costs the NHS £180. No wonder it is in such a mess.

Kathleen Bass
Norwich

SIR – Could we persuade the Duke of Norfolk to take on running the NHS?

Paddy Manning
Epping, Essex

Cash after Covid

SIR – A young man stood outside Waitrose on Thursday trying half-heartedly to raise money for the Surrey Air Ambulance.

I fished a fiver from my wallet only to be told, apologetically, that he could not accept it. Did I want to partake in a weekly lottery? I did not. Did I want to hand over my bank details or initiate an iniquitous continuous payment authority on my debit card? No. I wanted to give the poor young man a fiver to support an excellent cause.

We are beginning to realise, I hope, that, in the post-Covid era, we still need cash.

Christopher Pratt
Dorking, Surrey

Bankers' bonuses

SIR – Although removing the cap on bankers' bonuses is a certain vote loser, Kwasi Kwarteng, the Chancellor, would be right to do so (“Bank backs Kwarteng on plan to ditch bonus cap”, report, September 16).

The policy always had a limited evidence base, leading to suspicions it was just another EU law to clip the City's wings. Moreover, as the cap doesn't limit total remuneration, fixed salaries have soared, making banks less agile in times of limited liquidity.

The principle of growing the City by attracting talent is sound, and indirectly benefits us all through increased consumer spending and taxation. Mr Kwarteng should do more, however, to ensure that the City's growth is tied to social utility. He must find more of these post-Brexit dividends if he is to do this, and make good on his promise of a Big Bang 2.0.

Ben Cope
Epsom, Surrey

SIR – I worked hard all my working life and never received a bonus. I was only too pleased to work for 25 years before redundancy.

Bankers were responsible for the collapse of the financial system in 2008. We have seen the closure of bank branches and general poor service.

Increases in interest rates are not passed on to savers. Now bankers who are already well paid will be allowed to receive uncapped bonuses. During a cost-of-living crisis, this is obscene.

As I was afraid would happen, the Government appears to be rewarding the fat cats who already have enough. That is why I voted for Rishi Sunak to be the leader of the Conservative Party.

David Goodchild
Sleaford, Lincolnshire

SIR – Kwasi Kwarteng is to scrap the EU cap on bankers' bonuses.

Another early policy of the new administration is to shore up the multimillion-pound profits of the energy companies (“Energy bill freeze hands suppliers £1.6 billion”, report, September 15). I'm sure many who voted for Brexit are feeling, like me, that they were duped. I checked the definition of *plutocracy* and conclude that's what we have now.

Having previously supported the Conservatives, I will be voting Labour at the next election.

Tim Bradbury
Northwich, Cheshire

Aga incubation

SIR – I well remember growing up on our farm with an Aga in the kitchen (Letters, September 16). The warmth was constant and served a number of uses. One was to incubate lambs born on a cold winter's night and abandoned by their mothers. A day in the bottom oven with the door left open, while being hand fed, usually pulled them back from the brink.

It also provided sanctuary for many a litter of Jack Russell terriers.

John Marsh
Sheringham, Norfolk

SIR – Asked by Somerset County Council to consider village resilience in the event of a sustained power outage coinciding with very cold weather, our parish council found that while a few wood burners may keep residents warm, a handful of oil-run Agas are the only back-up that will provide hot drinks and food. They will run, without electricity, for weeks.

David Raynes
Litton, Somerset

Comma sense

SIR – Three cheers for Thérèse Coffey, the Health Secretary, who “cannot bear” the Oxford comma, and her wish that it is not used in departmental communications (report, September 16).

It is not grammatically optional. I delight in deleting it at every opportunity in articles sent to me for proofreading.

Mike Ellis
Whangamata, New Zealand

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CHARLES MOORE

The true reasons why the whole world wants to come to our Queen's funeral



She was the last truly imperial figure, and yet, as that dominion receded, no one was better able to bring a sense of wholeness and unity to the globe



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In the queue in Westminster Hall on Thursday, I was immediately behind two tall, dignified Sikh gentlemen. At the catafalque, they stood still. Each man brought his hands together in silent prayer and then passed on.

There is a short story by Rudyard Kipling. Its narrator is a Sikh officer in India. He tells his men how he witnessed the vigil in Westminster Hall ("a certain Temple which is near the river") over the coffin of King Edward VII.

Four elderly Gurkhas kept the vigil, he relates, as well as British Guards officers. Gurkhas were in short supply in England, so the four men insisted on standing for a full hour, whereas the Grenadiers in their "tall, grief-declaring bearskins" did only half-hour shifts.

It was a point of honour for the Gurkhas to do this for a King who "knew every button and braid and hook of every uniform in all His armies".

More tiring even than standing utterly still, they said, was that all they could see with their lowered eyes was "the unendurable procession of feet ... that never - never - never stops".

The story is called "In the Presence". In this extraordinary week, hundreds of thousands of pilgrim feet, and hundreds of millions of people across the world, find themselves in the presence.

Before I reached Westminster Hall, I had visited Margaret King, formerly of Aquascutum, whom I know because she used to dress Mrs Thatcher. As a 15-year-old girl in Salisbury, Rhodesia (now Harare,

Zimbabwe), Margaret danced the *Dashing White Sergeant* with Princess Elizabeth during the royal tour of southern Africa in 1947. During that visit, the future Queen made her famous vow of service on her 21st birthday.

Margaret and her fellow teenagers had practised Scottish reels before the Young People's Ball for the princesses in Salisbury; but on the night one young man in the party was "fumbling and stumbling" and could not manage it.

She recalls how Princess Elizabeth spotted the problem. Tactfully pretending that she was finding it hard to dance in her long Norman Hartnell dress, the Princess stopped proceedings and restarted the group under her co-ordination. In a voice which was almost a song, she called the time. Now the young man could follow the steps, and they all danced happily away. "He loved her for life," says Margaret.

Margaret's father, Patrick Fletcher, was a minister in the Rhodesian government. It fell to him to accompany King George VI, Queen Elizabeth (later the Queen Mother) and the two princesses to climb the Matopos, the hills sacred to the Ndebele people. Their destination was the tomb of Cecil Rhodes, after whom Rhodesia was named.

Ascending the steep granite slopes, the Queen tottered on her high heels and fell. The King was at a loss how to proceed until Princess Elizabeth lent her mother her more sensible shoes and elected to walk up the mountain in her stocking feet.

When they reached the top, the

Princess, as Fletcher recorded privately, "wandered away from the smooth precincts of the tomb". She "stood against the dipping sun" and surveyed the vast prospect of the veldt, which is called World's View.

Her father, the King, watched her. "There stands Lilibet all alone," he said, "She will be lonely in her life."

I retell Kipling's Indian fiction and Margaret's true story from Africa because they bring out the paradoxes in Elizabeth II's story.

The late Queen was the world's last truly imperial figure. Her famous vow included a lifelong commitment to the "great imperial family to which we all belong". When she came to the throne, she was Queen of all British African territories, of Pakistan, Ceylon (Sri Lanka today) etc, with dominion over palm and pine.

She gave them up, but never publicly criticised that legacy. Today, Cecil Rhodes, to whose memory the young Princess accorded such respect, is often seen as an arch-villain. Attempts have been made to bring down his statue in Oxford University.

Many royal-assisted efforts to ameliorate the imperial legacy came to nought. One of the purposes of the 1947 tour had been to boost the South African prime minister, General Smuts (who had fought Britain heroically in the Boer war), against the Afrikaner-led National Party, which was declaredly racist. Yet despite the huge *éclat* of the tour, Smuts lost the election the following year. Apartheid was then formally introduced in South Africa.

Although the Commonwealth

She knew every braid and button of her Armed Forces and almost equivalent details of her kingdom. We loved her for it

which succeeded the Empire works as a "friendship" organisation, the democratic political institutions which the British prided themselves on bequeathing to former colonies have rarely flourished.

Idi Amin had been a sergeant in the British Army, but that did not stop him ruling Uganda as a murderous dictator. Zimbabwe itself, for whose multi-racial independence the Queen quietly laboured, had to endure the tyranny of Robert Mugabe for nearly 40 years.

Many, particularly in this country, would defend many aspects of the British Empire. Many also see the Commonwealth as an institution with a future; but these are highly contested areas. They cannot possibly be the reasons that almost every leader in the world wishes to come to the funeral on Monday.

No previous British monarch (as opposed to earlier English ones) has had a funeral in Westminster Abbey. Theirs have usually been at far-smaller Windsor instead. Yet for Elizabeth II, it turns out, the Abbey is not nearly big enough. The world is trying to squeeze in.

Nor, on the other hand, can it be solely because of the late Queen's personal goodness, real and constant though it was, that the world is gripped. After all, there are many, many other virtuous people, thank God, and occasionally one or two of them lead their countries.

So what is it that - to quote Kipling's Sikh again - makes "the child, the old man; mother, virgin, harlot, trader, priest; of all colours and faiths and customs under the firmament of God"

want to enter that Westminster "Temple" in person or on screens? Bagehot famously spoke of a royal marriage being "a princely edition of a universal fact". He was right, but his point goes wider.

Elizabeth II's 70 years on the throne were a queenly edition of an entire collection of universal facts about war and peace, love and loss, youth and age, prosperity and adversity - the spooling out over one long life of the great passage from Ecclesiastes which says: "To everything there is a season."

I use the word "queenly" because I think the story is more conspicuous and more touching because it tells of a woman who moved, unsullied, in a world of power ordered by men.

Perhaps if she had not been born royal, Elizabeth Windsor would have led a contented life as a respected countrywoman, wife and mother, stalwart with the church flowers and at the local point-to-point.

But her calling was different, and she understood extraordinarily early and extraordinarily well what that meant. Like Edward VII in Kipling's account, she knew every braid and button of her Armed Forces, and almost equivalent details of her kingdom. We loved her for it.

But she went beyond that. Perhaps, when the young Elizabeth stood, alone and shoeless, and gazed at the World's View, she intuited the peace and wholeness which all the world seeks. In modern parlance, one might say that she devoted her entire reign to "channelling" this in her style of leadership. As she would more likely have put it, she did her bit.

Way of the World Michael Deacon

Protesters against climate change constantly tell us that we can't afford to do nothing. But perhaps the best thing for the environment would be for these protesters to do nothing themselves. Their protests - blocking roads, disrupting the Tube, etc - are so irritating that, if anything, they risk diminishing public support for their cause. Even if you share their concerns about pollution, their overbearing self-righteousness makes you want to trade in your hatchback for an articulated lorry, or a Boeing 737.

Then again, there is one thing you can say in defence of Insulate Britain and co. At least when they glue themselves to roads, they don't cause any physical damage, except perhaps to the skin of their own buttocks.

Now, though, there's a new group of eco activists - and they deliberately set out to damage people's property. "The Tyre Extinguishers", as they call themselves, target "gas-guzzling" cars. Whenever they spy a 4x4, they deflate its tyres by stuffing the wheels with, of

all things, lentils. On a single night earlier this month, they boasted of having "disarmed" more than 600 cars. And they've kept at it throughout the period of mourning ("The climate emergency isn't taking a break," they explained, "so neither will we.")

Worse than the vandalism, though, is the achingly pompous letter they stick to the car's windscreen.

"ATTENTION: your gas-guzzler kills," they write. "We have deflated one or more of your tyres ... You will have no difficulty getting around without your gas-guzzler, with walking, cycling or public transport..."

Not even electric cars escape the lentil treatment: "These are still dangerous, polluting and cause congestion."

The late PJ O'Rourke once argued that Western attempts to tackle climate change were futile, for a simple reason. "There are 1.3 billion people in China," he

wrote, back in 2010, "and they all want a Buick."

If the Tyre Extinguishers want to save the world, therefore, they should go to China, and wreck all the local cars. I'm sure the Chinese authorities will be most understanding.

People in northeast Ukraine sobbed with relief this week as their towns were liberated from Russian tyranny. The success of the Ukrainian fightback was deeply heartening. For one man here in Britain, however, the news presumably came as a surprise - and rather an awkward one, at that.

Just six weeks ago, Jeremy Corbyn, the former Labour leader, urged Western governments to stop providing Ukraine with weapons. "Pouring arms in," he declared loftily, during an interview with a Middle

Eastern TV channel, "isn't going to bring about a solution."

If Western governments hadn't "poured arms in", however, those towns in northeast Ukraine would still be under Russian control. So it would be interesting to know how Mr Corbyn felt, as he watched the news this week. Did it occur to him, just for a brief moment, that he might possibly have been wrong? If so, this must have been a strange and unsettling experience. After all, it's never happened to him before.

Whatever criticisms may be made of Boris Johnson's premiership, it's worth remembering that, but for him, Britain's response to the invasion would instead have been led by Mr Corbyn. And as a result, President Zelensky's pleas for British weapons would doubtless have been spurned.

Of course, it's important to acknowledge the possibility that Prime Minister Corbyn would have used his peerless negotiating skills to persuade the Russians to reverse their tanks, and

live in everlasting peace with their Ukrainian brothers. Humbled by St Jerome's example, Vladimir Putin might well have renounced violence, decommissioned his nuclear weapons, and retired from politics to become a landscape gardener.

On the other hand, it's also possible that Mr Corbyn would have proposed the same response to the invasion as he did to the Salisbury poisonings of 2018. Hand over a sample of Ukraine to the Russians, so they can say categorically whether it belongs to them.

Major news from Westminster. Steve Bray - the anti-Brexit activist who has spent the past six years standing outside Parliament bellowing endlessly into a loudhailer about the innumerable evils of Tory Britain - has revealed that he's thinking about leaving the country.

Some may think that Mr Bray is being just a tiny bit melodramatic. Personally, though, I support his plans wholeheartedly, and I'm sure many other people will, too - in particular, Conservative MPs, Conservative voters, and anyone who lives within a two-mile radius of Mr Bray's loudhailer. All these people, I strongly suspect, will be eager to do everything they can to help Mr Bray secure political asylum outside the UK as soon as possible. Even if they have to have a whip-round for his airfare.

Then again, perhaps the whip-round won't be necessary - because there may be an alternative solution. The Government was planning to send Channel-crossing migrants to Rwanda, but lawyers have prevented them. So, to ensure that tax-payers' money isn't completely wasted, surely it makes sense to send Mr Bray there instead.

Rwanda may not have been the kind of destination that Mr Bray had in mind. But he can always tell himself that at least it isn't Tory Britain.



JULIET SAMUEL

Putin's Russia is already learning the cost of becoming a vassal state of Xi's China



It could well turn out that, in the long run, the biggest threat to Moscow's territorial integrity isn't the West but the East

No one is quite sure whether he meant to admit it or not, but there it is. China, said Vladimir Putin after his first tête-à-tête with Xi Jinping since the war started, has "questions" and "concerns" about Russia's invasion of Ukraine. I'll bet it does. A year ago, Xi was pleasantly contemplating the West's inevitable decline and eyeing a decade as chief of the ascendant dictators' club. This year, China is facing a renewed sense of purpose in the democratic world, and, with gritted teeth, obeying a barrage of American sanctions.

What is really revealing about Putin's comments, however, is not how badly wrong his war has gone (we already knew that), but what they reveal about Russia's subservience to China. What started as a beautiful friendship is already turning sour.

It was just a month before Putin's invasion when the two countries affirmed this undying "friendship". It soon became clear that Moscow had quietly tipped off Beijing about its intentions. This was a worrying sign for the West. Since the days of Henry Kissinger, it has been received wisdom that we should try never to be at odds with Russia and China at the same time. You only have to look at a map to see why. A long-lasting authoritarian alliance between the two main empires of the Eurasian continent is a stomach-churning prospect.

Ukraine's vigorous resistance and potential victory have, however, complicated the picture. If, as Putin had expected, Kyiv had fallen into his hands within days or even weeks, the Russo-Chinese pseudo love-in could have gone on for years. Instead, with every Ukrainian breakthrough, the inevitable, unpalatable implications of Russia's dependence upon China become clearer.

"Friendship", you see, is such a slippery word. You might think it means military aid, sanctions-busting and sharing technology, but it might turn out that your "friend" just thought it meant buying a lot of cheap assets and resources off you while you're weak.

Just like the West, Russia has always tried to have a hedging strategy when it comes to foreign relations. One of Putin's major projects of the past decade has been to build pipelines to the east as well as west, to give Russian gas more routes to market. After all, despite soaring prices, Moscow's budget slipped into deficit in August because of its European gas embargo. Russia needs options.

The first east-facing pipeline, Power of Siberia 1, began shipping gas to China in 2019. But an agreement over the second, Siberia 2, which would link up

China to the same gas fields that supply Europe, ran into the sand in 2015 after the two sides couldn't agree on gas prices.

In February, Xi and Putin declared the pipeline was back on, though it still wouldn't start flowing until 2030. That didn't stop Russia's energy minister declaring this week that Siberia 2 could entirely replace European exports. What he didn't mention is that now is not a brilliant time to negotiate.

Moscow has marooned most of its gas inside Russia without a buyer. While that continues, Russia is a forced seller and Xi knows it.

At the same time, Russia has made itself into a forced buyer of high-tech goods. It needs equipment, semiconductors and finance to wage war. It is increasingly short of places to get them.

China cannot afford to bust US sanctions openly, because of its dependency on exports to America, but it could potentially be a source of under-the-radar goods for a desperate Moscow. So far, however, Beijing does not seem to be playing along. If and when it does decide to, there will be an important question to answer first: what will Russia have to give in return?

One of China's asks over the years has been to get greater access for its migrants, companies and investors to Siberia. In 2015, Moscow was forced to put the kibosh on a huge Chinese land leasing deal in Siberia and, at the same time, imposed a language test for Chinese guest workers in the region, following furious protests at the prospect of a so-called Chinese worker "invasion".

It is easy to see why those on the Russian side might feel threatened: just look again at a map, and find the country next to the half-empty, undeveloped wilds of Siberia that has a vast population, a huge thirst for resources, oodles of cash (for now at least) and a racist notion of its own superiority.

According to a 2020 report by the Free Russia Foundation, there is already a burgeoning industry of Russian firms acting as fronts for state-subsidised Chinese investors buying up gold, oil and factories in the country, especially in the Far East, and thriving Chinese influence operations in all sorts of Russian state entities. In the long run, it could well turn out that the biggest threat to Russia's territorial integrity comes not from the West, but the East.

In truth, the only thing that really brings Russia and China together is a hatred of democratic liberalism and a shaky ideological fellowship based on a notion called the "civilisation state".

This ideology, in some ways a new iteration of Samuel Huntington's "clash of civilisations", promotes the idea that freedom and human rights are ideas limited to Western civilisation that have no universal applicability. Instead, each civilisation is driven by its own internal logic and must pursue its own destiny. As the historian Peter Elstov puts it: "They think they're not nation states any more - they're above that."

While this sounds intriguing in theory, in practice it is mainly a way to legitimise one-man rule by linking up Confucius with Mao or drawing a line from the tsars to Stalinism and the neo-fascist creed of "Eurasianism" and the Russian Orthodox Church. But although the civilisation-state doctrine may seem like a unifying factor between dictators, it is more likely to be a recipe for conflict between them.



Power play: Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, on Thursday

What, after all, does the stridently materialist, atheistic doctrine of Xi Thought really have in common with Putin's notion of Russia as the "third Rome" of Christendom - except an

expansionist idea of their own exceptionalism?

The democratic world cannot force these realisations upon Russia, China or anyone else. But we could do a much better job of talking about them, loudly and clearly, and highlighting events that support our view of the world. For now, Moscow has in record time forced itself to enter into vassalage to China, but there is no inherent reason why this position should last.

If, indeed, Ukraine can hold its own and win the war, there is every reason to think that we could eventually pull Russia into a position of neutrality in the broader rivalry between China and the democratic world. The best reason to think is that this would overwhelmingly be in Russia's interests, a fact that will become increasingly obvious - even to Moscow.

Ritual and ceremony give the public the language to mourn with dignity

Don't smile! It's not a happy occasion," the mother barked at her daughter as she posed for photos outside Buckingham Palace. The daughter, aged perhaps 10 or 11, stopped smiling, but she didn't know what to do instead. The mother took the snap, spent some time checking her make-up and then announced: "Right. I'm going to get a photo of the flags." The daughter wheeled and danced around the open space, filled with anticipation.

It was Tuesday night and we were outside Buckingham Palace, awaiting the Queen's hearse. The onlookers that night were a confused mixture of tourists, monarchists and restless children, equipped with a voracious army of camera phones.

It was not a festival or a film premiere and yet, perversely, it had something of that atmosphere. The crowd was straining for a good view. A man stood waiting in the middle of the road with a Labrador puppy; a British woman explained the anticipation to a confused Arab couple: "They're bringing the Queen's body here"; children capered; youthful stewards in fluorescent vests frolicked; a toddler bellowed at its nattering mother; an American trying to get close to the wrought-iron railings

of the palace imagined aloud how she would recount this moment: "I was there when they brought the Queen in but I didn't see anything!"

The first sign of the convoy was the pair of helicopters that came into view over the park. They hovered in the sky, then one split off and came towards us while the other tracked the hearse. As the hearse and its police outriders approached, the crowd started clapping and then cheering. I became confused. Whooping is not the appropriate greeting for a hearse. But what was? Silence, surely, but the crowd was too excited. They applauded. Phones appeared above heads. I caught a glimpse of white flowers atop the coffin; the convoy rolled through the gates; the people surged toward the railings to see it disappear. Then it was over.

This, I thought, is why we need the solemn and ancient rituals of proclamations, addresses, processions and funerals, the modest covering of the maces when the King enters Parliament, the breaking of the Lord Chamberlain's rod over the Queen's coffin, the drumming and marching, the singing and exclamations of "God save the King!" These rituals tell us what to do and open up the way for shared experiences. The critics moan

The critics moan that royal ceremony is 'exclusive' or 'classist'. It is the opposite. Only by participating in rituals can everyone be included and play their part

that royal ceremony is "exclusive" or "classist". It is the opposite. Only by participating in rituals can everyone be included and play their part. That is, in the end, all we really want to do.

If you want a symbol of pluralism thriving within tradition, pay attention to all the marvellous hats on display. There's the ceremonial headdress: those spiked golden helms dangling bright white swan feathers worn by the Gentlemen at Arms, the Horse Guards' "Albert helmet" with its great yellow or red tassel, the blue and gold field marshal's cap worn by the King, the Princess Royal's navy, white and gold admiral's hat, the peculiar range of black lace "fascinators" worn by the women, the marvellous bicorn of the Garter King of Arms, with its huge wobbling, white-feather crest, the impeccable navy police helmets, their silver badges shining and, of course, the great, fluffy bearskins worn by the Foot Guards, taken on and off with startling precision.

But the public's hats, too, caught my eye as I strolled the length of the great queue: an immaculate black bowler, a straw hat with a cheerful Union Jack mounted on top, several ladies' church hats, hijabs, black beanies, military berets, flat caps, African head wraps and baseball caps, often paired with a hiking rucksack and boots for the expeditionist's approach to the task. There were blue rinses, bleach blondes and blue-dyed hipsters, ladies with walking aids and ski poles, gum-chewing girls and old men in tartan scarves, on and on for miles. There was no uniform, except in the collective sense of purpose: to wait patiently and then pay their respects.

JOHN REDWOOD

Treasury orthodoxy has failed Britain for decades



Thirty years after Black Wednesday, the groupthink that took us into the ERM must finally be tackled

The new Prime Minister and Chancellor are clear that we need to challenge Treasury orthodoxy. They want to do so not because they want more inflation, or care less about the prudent management of the public finances than those who went before. They recognise that the current orthodoxy has failed. It has given us 10 per cent inflation and put us through several violent cycles in the past few decades that could have been avoided.

Indeed, yesterday marked the 30th anniversary of Black Wednesday, when the UK crashed out of the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM). Part of today's orthodoxy is derived from the self-same Maastricht Treaty thinking on debt and deficits which caused our grief in 1992, allied to the exchange rate requirements to prepare us for the euro.

The ERM was a case study in Treasury groupthink. It recommended joining the ERM strongly to successive chancellors. John Major finally drove the policy through against a prime minister who knew it was wrong. I had advised Mrs Thatcher that the ERM would be destabilising, lurching from creating too much money and credit to too little. Nicholas Ridley was a lone voice in the Cabinet making the case against joining. I wrote a pamphlet describing the possible difficulties. I took the listed company I chaired out of the CBI in protest at the group backing the ERM policy, telling them it was bound to damage business and the rest of the country. And so it proved.

But the ERM disaster was not unique among official advice in the past 50 years. There was the early 1970s secondary banking crash, made worse by the Opec oil price hike. There was the end of 1970s policy depression meant to purge the high inflation that loose monetary policy and Labour's fiscal policy caused. There was the great banking crash of 2008-9, which followed a period of over-easy money when we were told by government that banks could lend far more without bad consequences. These were all boom-

bust cycles like the ERM one, all of which harmed us and slowed the longer term growth rate.

Treasury orthodoxy has evolved as it has drifted from one bad international fashion to another. If there is a single leaden thread, however, it has been an unwillingness to take money and credit growth seriously, ending in them each time expanding excessively and then contracting too far and too fast in shock at the error.

Today the orthodoxy that needs changing is the one which said it would not be inflationary to carry on creating money and buying bonds. The Treasury throughout the past 13 years ignored inflation in financial assets. It was only a matter of time before asset inflation spread into general inflation. I assume the new team will rightly rule out any more special bond buying. The Treasury also needs to grasp that lurching from excessively easy money as in 2020-21 to excessively tight money is the way to bring on a slump.

Steering the economy to achieve lower future debt ratios when forecasts are often wildly out on tax revenues and inflation is also not a good model. In the past two years, revenues have outperformed the official forecasts, meaning we borrowed a lot less and worried needlessly about the deficit. In the recession, which official policy now seems to favour, the opposite is likely to happen with revenues falling short and the deficit rising. The new policy needs to take money and credit seriously. But it also needs to set tax rates that help grow revenue, not stifle it, as well as removing obstacles to growth throughout the private sector, which the old rules failed to do.

Leaving the ERM allowed us to reduce interest rates and get out of the recession it created. Today, we have to see off the recession the Bank is forecasting. That requires new thinking. The only way to work our way out of our present difficulties is to produce more energy, make more and sell more.

Bruce misses out

Eyebrows have been raised in Scotland after Maj Gen Alastair Bruce, below, Governor of Edinburgh Castle, did not appear at the proclamation of the King's new reign in the Scottish capital.

Bruce - who also works as the royal commentator for Sky News - gave an apology on air last weekend as he spoke over the pictures of the ceremony: "Sadly, as Governor of Edinburgh Castle, I was unable to be present but I am represented today by General Bill Wright, the General Officer, Scotland."

A Sky spokesman tells me Bruce had not gone AWOL: "He has been granted leave of absence for the purposes of state ceremonial by the Army and the Earl Marshal." But a senior military figure tells me that "it is a bit off", adding: "It is extraordinary. He is Governor of the Castle, one of the most ancient posts in the United Kingdom."

College sources appeal for calm. One insists that the dinners will have "a suitably sombre tone", and points out that the reunions have previously fallen victim to the Covid pandemic.

But still, is this really the right time?

Major admires Angie's heels

Before the Proclamation of the new King was read at St James's Palace last weekend, Sir John Major was spotted admiring Angela Rayner's vertiginous footwear.

"He said it was 'extraordinary I can wear these heels,'" the Labour deputy leader told me. Sir John might have been impressed because he suffered a knee injury which was aggravated by lack of leg room in his armoured Daimler when he was PM in the 1990s.

Rayner, left, reassured him that if he happened to fall over, he had nothing to fear: as a former home care she knew "how to make him fall safely and gently". A kinder politics.



Fit for a Queen

Plans to fill the "Fourth Plinth" in Trafalgar Square with a statue by Samson Kambala of an anti-colonial Baptist pastor John Chilembwe (Kambala is pictured with the maquette, right) on Wednesday this week were "temporarily paused" after the Queen's death. But there has been persistent talk that the plinth has been kept vacant for a statue of Her Majesty herself.

City Hall insists there are planned Fourth Plinth sculptures for another four years. Wouldn't that be enough time to sculpt a fitting statue of the late Queen - and perhaps one of Prince Philip alongside - to stand in the square for time immemorial?

Gisborough's historic claim

Lord Gisborough is thought to be the only person still alive who sat in Parliament when the last monarch died. The hereditary peer, 95, took his seat in the Lords in November 1951, just a few months before the death of King George VI. He tells me: "I sat with the peers in coronation robes and coronet and still have the coronation chair on which I sat."

Gisborough quit Parliament in 1999 when Tony Blair cleared out most of the hereditaries. And he will not be attending the late Queen's funeral. A link with history has been broken.

Edited by Christopher Hope
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News Focus

The new royal favourites at the court of Charles III

The monarch's choice of advisers will say a lot about the type of sovereign our King intends to be, says *Simon Heffer*

A well-regulated royal household should ensure that the sovereign's life, and that of his consort, functions smoothly. But all courts include a wider circle of a monarch's friends and acquaintances on whose experience, wisdom and expertise they have always drawn, supplementing the chief advisory role of the prime minister. History also relates, however, that monarchs who are good judges of character – and include people of intelligence and wisdom – often end up as successful kings or queens.

Edward VII, whose apprenticeship for the throne was almost as long as the new King Charles's, was regarded – by his mother – as likely to be useless. In fact, his short reign is regarded as a golden age, and he was a popular monarch. He had a devoted private secretary, Sir Francis (later Viscount) Knollys, and an astute courtier to whom he delegated difficult tasks, the 2nd Viscount Esher, whose private intelligence network was at the king's disposal and ensured he was suplerlatively well-informed.

By contrast, Edward VII's grandson, Edward VIII, had appalling judgment. His favourite crony, Edward "Fruity" Metcalfe, was sent to outer darkness when, accompanying him (as Prince of Wales) to America in 1924, a letter from the king was stolen by a New York prostitute from his coat pocket.

The highly competent private secretary that Edward VIII inherited from his father, Sir Clive Wigram, resigned almost immediately, knowing full well what the new king was like. Edward VIII treated Wigram's highly correct successor, Alec Hardinge, with disdain, and abdicated after less than 11 months.

King Charles will be aware of these, and other, lessons of history. The household he inherits from Queen Elizabeth II had 491 full-time staff. Few, however, will play a significant role. The two most important officials will be the King's principal private

secretary, who runs his office and handles communications with the Government and national and international bodies, and the Lord Chamberlain, who has oversight of the support system for the King and Queen Consort.

The current Chamberlain, Lord Parker of Minshane, is viewed as a highly capable and effective executive: another courtier describes him as "shrewd, experienced and wise". Lord Parker ran MI5 from 2013 to 2020, and took up his present post last year. It is believed that the King was consulted on his appointment, given the late Queen's great age. It is a tradition that the Lord Chamberlain breaks his ceremonial staff, or "white wand", over the grave of the deceased sovereign, signalling the end of his duties, but Lord Parker is expected to be reappointed.

Sir Michael Lockett, who organised the last three jubilees and helped with the London Olympics, is often consulted by the King, though his overt politics (he worked for John Major and David Cameron, organised Tory conferences and was the man who started to tell senior Tories to take their jackets off to appear informal) and his age (74) preclude him from an official position.

Sir Edward Young, the late Queen's 55-year-old private secretary, is highly thought of – as deputy private secretary, he was acclaimed for masterminding Queen Elizabeth's landmark visit to Ireland in 2011 – but it is thought that the King wants his own man. If so, that man is thought certain to be Sir Clive Alderton, a former diplomat who went to work for Charles and Camilla in 2006, shortly after their marriage.

The King is said to be highly reliant on him and to trust him entirely. Sir Clive took three years out of royal service from 2012 to 2015, when he served as ambassador to Morocco, but he has been the King's

principal private secretary since returning. Sir Clive is deemed, however, to have had a bad start by warning Clarence House staff of their possible redundancy before Queen Elizabeth was even buried: it has not helped his popularity in the royal household, which was not universal.

The present Keeper of the Privy Purse, Sir Michael Stevens, has been in royal service since 1995, and is an accountant by training. He manages the royal finances, based on the annual

Sovereign Grant, and is deemed to have done an immaculate job. There is no obvious successor to him, and others close to the King imagine he will retain Sir Michael's services.

That may not be the case with the current Master of the Household, Vice-Admiral Sir Anthony Johnstone-Burt, a 64-year-old who has served since 2013. One of the King's most popular and trusted lieutenants is the Earl of Rosslyn, Peter St Clair-Erskine, also 64, who has an unusual

Two key officials are the King's private secretary and the Lord Chamberlain

background for a hereditary peer in having been a police officer. His career culminated in a decade in charge of royal and diplomatic protection. He is also an elected crossbench peer. Since 2014 he has been Master of the King's household at Clarence House and is viewed as the King's right-hand man. The job is effectively chief operational officer, overseen by the Lord Chamberlain.

Aside from official appointments, the King has friends who have earned



HENRY NICHOLLS/PA/GTY SHUTTERSTOCK/REUTERS/REX



TOBYNE ANDREA
Communications secretary



ELIZABETH BUCHANAN
Adviser



EARL OF ROSSLYN
Master of the Household



SIR CLIVE ALDERTON
Private secretary

Previously deputy editor of the *Daily Mail*, he was appointed this summer – the then-Duchess of Cornwall is said to have personally selected him, having consulted her friend, former *Daily Mail* editor Geordie Greig.

Once press secretary to Margaret Thatcher, she is now special adviser to Waitrose, and is said to keep an eye on the King's Duchy Organics business interests there. She also manages her family's organic livestock farm in East Sussex.

Crossbench peer and former police officer who spent a decade leading royal and diplomatic protection, he is now viewed as the King's right-hand man. His role (effectively chief operating officer) is overseen by the Lord Chamberlain, a position held by former MI5 chief, Lord Parker, who is also expected to stay on.

Former diplomat (once Britain's youngest ambassador) became the then-Prince of Wales's principal private secretary in 2015. Said to be charming, fiercely hard working, with a "calculating mind", he is credited with providing the infamous "recollections may differ" phrase.

IN

King Charles's new inner circle: the courtiers tipped to be staying on, from the organic farmer and Mrs Thatcher's press secretary to the former MI5 spook...



his trust by their loyalty and ability to keep his secrets. He has known Sir Nicholas Soames, former Tory MP and minister, since they were eight years old, and Sir Nicholas is precisely the sort of man that the King would ask in for a drink if he wished to talk something over in confidence. Another reported confidante is Elizabeth Buchanan, whose background in politics (working for Baroness Thatcher) before she was a private secretary to the King in the early

2000s gives her a skill set useful now the King must become directly involved in constitutional questions.

The King will confine his views on matters he was vocal about as Prince of Wales – such as the environment – to private conversations with his ministers rather than express them in public. As one collaborator on these questions put it, “Princes do, Kings are”. His main adviser on environmental matters – on which the King is himself regarded as an expert

– is Tony Juniper, a former Friends of the Earth activist who runs Natural England; but Charles is also thought to consult Richard Aylard, a former courtier, who held a senior position in the water industry, and Patrick Holden, who ran the Soil Association.

On business questions, not least in the context of social responsibility, the King is thought still to be close to Dame Julia Cleverdon, who ran his Business in the

Everyone close to the King at present has one thing in common: they do what he wants

Community charity from 1992 to 2008; and he is known to value the present director, Amanda Mackenzie. Dame Jayne-Anne Gadhia, former CEO of Virgin Money, is someone he consults on social questions: she is a champion of gender diversity in business. Dame Martina Milburn, chief executive of the Prince’s Trust, chaired the Social Mobility Commission and is also in the King’s advisory circle. American-born Dame Amelia Fawcett, a former vice-chairman of Morgan Stanley and ex-member of the Court of the Bank of England, chaired the Prince of Wales’s Charitable Fund from 2011 to 2018 and remains close to the King.

If he wants to consult anyone on questions of architecture – a subject on which he may well feel able to speak in public – two people close to him are Ben Tindall, the Scottish architect, and Ben Pentreath, the architect and designer who has worked extensively at the King’s new settlement at Poundbury in Dorset.

One man who will hope to have a smooth passage is former *Daily Mail* editorial executive Tobyn Andreae, a civilised and thoughtful man, hired recently to run the Clarence House press operation and now thought a certainty to discharge those duties for the King at Buckingham Palace.

Although the King has launched his reign with spectacular aplomb and assurance, one or two traps may lie ahead, such as any display of petulance, and it could be Mr Andreae’s job to seek to avoid them, or at least avoid them becoming public.

One weak spot, according to several of the King’s friends and acquaintances, is his tendency to “shoot the messenger” – an undue desire to be told what he wants to hear rather than to hear the truth and to adapt his views or actions accordingly. Such a tendency, if it continues, would be more Edward VIII than Edward VII. There is nothing wrong with the King expanding his court as widely and as

flexibly as he wishes, but it is important, if he does, to be able to discern good advice from bad, even if he finds it unpleasant, and to act in accordance with the wisdom of what he is told.

Certainly, everyone who is close to the King at present has one thing in common: they do what they know he wants. As well as being entirely trustworthy, they can be relied upon not to question his judgment or decisions.

A prominent example of somebody who did question the then-Prince of Wales’s judgment was Queen Elizabeth’s private secretary of 10 years, Sir Christopher – now Lord Geidt, who wished to reorganise the royal households. The then-Prince saw this as an intrusion into his right to run his own life. After a brief battle of wills, Sir Christopher resigned. Sir Edward Young was appointed to replace him.

Lord Geidt was highly regarded by other courtiers and by those who had to deal with Buckingham Palace. His departure caused great upset at the time. Even today, five years later, some at court still regard his treatment by the then-Prince of Wales as having been “outrageous” and “petulant”.

However, it appears obvious that the King has reacted to the death of his mother in a profoundly sober and responsible fashion, as if he is suddenly aware of the full extent of his duties and responsibilities, so behaviour such as that in the case of Lord Geidt is unlikely to be repeated.

Those who know the King and Queen Consort are also certain that Queen Camilla will be a very good influence on him over his treatment of other people – many people have remarked on this in the 17 years since they got married. She has made him more considerate towards others.

So far he has not put a foot wrong, and those in his pay will hope, as much for their sakes as for his, that it stays that way.

OUT

...and the royal aides likely to be left out in the cold, from Prince William’s godmother to the late Queen’s personal assistant and closest confidante



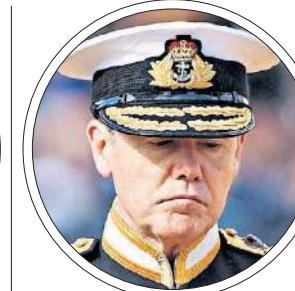
LADY SUSAN HUSSEY
Current role: Lady-in-waiting



SIR EDWARD YOUNG
Current role: The monarch’s private secretary



DAME ANGELA KELLY
Current role: Queen Elizabeth’s dresser



VICE-ADMIRAL SIR ANTHONY JOHNSTONE-BURT
Current role: Master of the Household

Queen Elizabeth II’s lady-in-waiting who spent nearly 60 years at her side – also Prince William’s godmother. The Queen Consort’s ladies-in-waiting are yet to be confirmed, but are likely to include Amanda MacManus, her loyal friend, ally and former private secretary.

Said to have encountered “significant tensions” with Prince Harry around Megxit. However, he is highly thought of and acclaimed for masterminding Queen Elizabeth’s landmark visit to Ireland in 2011. But it is thought the King wants his own man.

Originally employed as an assistant dresser, she rose through the ranks becoming Queen Elizabeth’s personal assistant, dresser and right-hand woman – also one of her closest confidantes. She will be allowed to stay on in her grace-and-favour home at Windsor.

Former Royal Navy officer who was a helicopter pilot in the Falklands war, before serving the late Queen for a decade, running a department responsible for official and private entertaining across royal residences.

Comment



DAVID RAMOS/REUTERS

Dignity: the Princess Royal and the Queen Consort with King Charles III at the Palace of Westminster on Wednesday, where they paid their respects to the late Queen

CAMILLA TOMINEY

Women are the monarchy's quiet stars

What would the Royal family do without the wives of Windsor? The monarchy may have lost its beloved matriarch, but what we have learnt this week is that it is more than ably supported by a formidable sisterhood that helps to keep this ancient institution's feet firmly on the ground.

From the Queen Consort soldiering on through visits to all four corners of the UK with a broken toe, to the Princess Royal's extraordinary two-day journey from Scotland to London with her late mother's coffin, to the Countess of Wessex's heartwarming hug with a teenage well-wisher in Manchester on Thursday, these leading royal ladies could not have done a better job of honouring Queen Elizabeth II's memory.

It was less than a decade ago that the novelist Hilary Mantel cruelly described the Princess of Wales, then the Duchess of Cambridge, as a personality-free "shop window mannequin"; a "machine made"

princess, who appeared to have been designed by committee. The attack by the Booker Prize-winning author of *Wolf Hall* and *Bring Up The Bodies* came to symbolise the Left's view of royal women as one-dimensional breeding machines with "plastic smiles".

But in reality, as the Princess of Wales has demonstrated each and every time she has stepped up in support of Crown and country, if it weren't for these dutiful duchesses, the Royal family might still be regarded as it was in Mantel's Tudor times: out of touch, unfeeling and downright scheming.

While it is no secret that modern-day royals still face their fair share of slippery situations – just look at the ongoing rift between the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Sussex – almost always it is the females in the family who have helped to smooth things over.

Twenty-five years ago, following the death of Diana, Princess of Wales – the ultimate soft powerhouse, it

must be said – Camilla was one of the most vilified women in the country. Dubbed Public Enemy No 1, I remember from my days on the *Sunday Express*, a devotedly pro-Diana paper, the depth of the ill-feeling towards her.

Yet can you even begin to imagine what the reign of King Charles III would have looked like without her by his side?

How might #pengate have worked out, without the practically minded 75-year-old springing into action and saving him? In that one moment as the new monarch, 73, struggled to sign the visitors' book at Hillsborough Castle, complaining: "I can't bear this bloody thing ... every stinking time," we came to realise the Queen Consort's true worth. Put simply, she appears to make the King a better man.

No wonder the late Queen insisted that Camilla should herself become Queen – Queen Elizabeth knew better than anyone the invaluable nature of her daughter-in-law's contribution as seemingly the only person on earth

who fully understands Charles.

A woman who takes the work seriously – but not herself, the Queen Consort's good humour and sense of fun (remember that crafty wink during President Trump's visit in 2019?) stands King Charles's reign in good stead.

It is certainly testament to the unfussy, unstuffy grandmother of 10's innate sense of magnanimity that, despite the vicious criticism she received from the press in the 1990s and early 2000s, she remains the friendliest of all the royals towards reporters and photographers.

Would William be as popular as he has become without his wife's firm hand on the domestic tiller? I appreciate that the public instantly warmed to Prince William as Diana's lookalike eldest son but, before he met Kate, the "girl-next-door" from Bucklebury, the heir to the throne had a reputation in some quarters for a degree of hot temperedness.

Yet marriage and fatherhood have mellowed him. Those who know the couple well speak of his imperturbable wife as someone with a Kipling-esque ability to keep her head when all around her are losing theirs.

She was trashed by her sister-in-law the Duchess of Sussex when the latter told Oprah Winfrey that it was Kate who made her cry during a bridesmaid's dress fitting. (I wrote the original story suggesting it was the other way round; to quote the late Queen: "Recollections may vary.")

But Kate still had the good grace to act as peacemaker between the estranged royal brothers at the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral, little over a month later. Would William and Harry even have spoken during those solemn commemorations at Windsor Castle if it were not for Kate? I doubt it.

Similarly, in recent days we have witnessed the Countess of Wessex extend the hand of friendship to Meghan who, let's face it, must be feeling a tad awkward even to be here. It was only last month that the former American actress was spilling every last available bean to *The Cut* magazine, boasting of how she has "never had to sign anything that restricts me from talking".

As she added, somewhat menacingly: "I can talk about my whole experience and make a choice not to."

Despite the implied threat, and Prince Harry's memoirs hanging, like a sword of Damocles, over the Royal family, Sophie has still shown her support to the couple, mindful, no

doubt, that that is what the late Queen would have wanted.

I interviewed the Countess and her husband Prince Edward, the Earl of Wessex, at their Bagshot Park home in June last year and I can tell you this unassuming pair of royal troopers do exactly what it says on the tin. There has been much talk of them "stepping up" in recent months – but this couple, whose children Lady Louise and James, Viscount Severn, were very close to their grandmother, have been quietly plugging away at this, largely without fanfare, for more than 20 years.

These are people who, when they invited me into their sumptuous home, poured the tea themselves and gave me some very salient advice on box blight. It is hardly surprising that unshowy Sophie, whose grief has been etched across her face as she has embraced mourners on walkabouts, was the late Queen's favourite daughter-in-law.

(Even Sarah, Duchess of York, remained in the late Queen's affections years after her divorce from Prince Andrew, in admiration for the way she brought up Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie, who by all accounts are lovely women despite the Yorks' somewhat chequered history).

No appreciation of royal women would be complete without a word on that most stalwart of royal sisters, so identically cut from Queen Elizabeth's cloth: the Princess Royal.

As a sibling to the King, Anne, 72, could not have been more supportive – agreeing to accompany their late mother's coffin all the way from Balmoral to London while he fulfilled his constitutional duties.

But she is also the best possible advert for an organisation whose survival depends on unwavering devotion to duty, and good old fashioned graft. In her moving tribute, Princess Anne spoke of how we "may have been reminded how much of her [mother's] presence and contribution to our national identity we took for granted".

Yet for years many have actually taken for granted the contribution she has made to public life – along with that of her fellow royal females.

In her 1966 Christmas broadcast, Queen Elizabeth said: "It has been women who have breathed gentleness and care into the harsh progress of mankind."

In coping with the crises it has faced over the years, the House of Windsor owes a great debt to the determination and tenacity of its women.

Perhaps the French aren't so bad after all

Trust the late Queen to bring the best out in the French when it comes to Franco-British relations.

Queen Elizabeth spoke French, and as her former assistant private secretary Sam Cohen revealed in this newspaper earlier this week: "Her French was fluent, despite never having lived there or practised the language from one year to another.

"On a state visit in 2014, she declined a translator and was happy to converse with President Hollande about matters of state in French."

The outpouring of grief for *La Reine* in the proudly republican country has been unprecedented, with newspapers and magazines clearing their front pages to express national sorrow.

Summing up the emotions of a heartbroken nation, *Le Parisien's* headline simply read: "Nous l'avons tant aimée". We loved her so much.

President Emmanuel Macron's tribute, meanwhile, was arguably the

most moving of any foreign leader's. "With her passing, we all feel an emptiness," he said, speaking directly to the British in English.

"Her unwavering dignity made her the constant symbol of the United Kingdom," he continued. "We are grateful for her deep affection for France. Elizabeth II mastered our language, loved our culture and touched our hearts."

He concluded his heartfelt address by saying: "To you, she was your Queen. To us, she was 'The Queen'. She will be with all of us forever."

On Thursday, it was announced that the airport in Le Touquet-Paris-Plage, a popular destination for British holidaymakers in northern France, is to be renamed after the late Queen.

People sometimes question the soft power punch of the Royal family – but the reaction of the French speaks to our former monarch being the best diplomat this country will ever know.

The Telegraph

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The Saturday Interview

As a coal miner's daughter who became one of the White House's top security advisers, Fiona Hill has long been used to people underestimating her. At her interview for Oxford in the 1980s, posh students sniggered at her working-class County Durham accent. When she worked in Donald Trump's Oval Office as his top Russia adviser, he thought she was a secretary. And during visits to Moscow over the years, she was mistaken for a waitress, an aide to her male colleagues and an upmarket prostitute.

No occasion, though, left her quite as nonplussed as being seated next to Vladimir Putin himself at a dinner in Moscow – an honour normally reserved for fellow world leaders. At first, she felt flattered; the Russian president – if no one else – was taking her seriously. It was only later, having been blanked by him throughout the evening, that she realised why.

"It was because I was a nondescript older woman – not particularly glamorous or interesting to look at – so that basically all eyes would be on him, to make him the focal point for everybody," she recalls in a Zoom interview from her Washington DC home. "He barely spoke to me all night, except at the end, when he said: 'All the best', in English."

That was back in 2011, when relations with Russia were better, and when Washington's foremost Russia expert was little-known to the world – save, perhaps, as "Unidentified Female Official" in Kremlin official photo archives. It is fair to say things have moved on rather since then – for Hill as well as her dining companion.

Indeed, had Putin made the effort to talk to her that night, he might have thought more carefully about the implications of invading Ukraine. For Hill, 56, is one of the world's foremost experts on Russia, serving as director for European and Russian affairs on Trump's National Security Council, and in senior intelligence roles for both Bush and Obama.

And, for a "nondescript older woman", a lot of people now recognise her face. In 2019 she found herself the centre of attention when she testified at Trump's first impeachment trial, where she backed up claims of Russian interference in the elections that

'Putin thinks it's a sign of weakness to have women in prominent positions, such as PM'

brought him to power. Her calm testimony laid bare how vulnerable the dysfunctional Trump's White House was to Russian meddling – winning her praise and death threats in equal measure.

Since then, she has become a star of the international speaking circuit, and appeared on *Desert Island Discs*, memorably describing how Putin had an odd, freshly laundered smell, as if he had just "stepped out of some special preparatory bath".

She's also written a best-selling book, *There is Nothing for You Here*, about her journey from "the coalhouse to the White House" – charting how the girl who struggled to get a break in snobby Britain finally made it to the US.

Since the invasion of Ukraine, her wisdom has been in demand more than ever, as the world tries to work out what Putin will do next as his invasion of Ukraine drags Russia ever further into a quagmire. On Thursday, the Russian leader appeared for the first time to acknowledge that things were not going well, during a meeting with China's President Xi Jinping, one of his few allies. In an apparent recognition that even Beijing is worried at the way things are going, the normally bullish Putin said he was keen to reassure China over its "questions and concerns" about Ukraine.

Putin and his ageing cronies might be living, swaggering proof that stale, male cliques do not make the best decisions. Hill is not the only visiting female functionary to get a patronising Kremlin brush-off. So did Liz Truss as foreign secretary, when she visited Sergei Lavrov, Russia's grouchy foreign minister, two weeks ahead of the war. In an icy meeting, he mansplained about Russian geography, and then declared that dialogue with her was "like talking to a deaf person".

Truss's treatment may help explain why she seems every bit as hawkish on Ukraine as Boris Johnson was. Yet according to Hill, Putin's circle of ex-spoofs is so steeped in machismo that they take the very presence of a female VIP as an insult.

"Putin and the people around him... actually feel that there's some kind of effort to deliberately humiliate them by countries that show up with all these women," she says. "There are a few women in his government, such as Elvira Nabiullina, the respected head of Russia's central bank, but they're advisers on technical issues, not power players within the circle. I think Putin thinks it's a sign of weakness for European states to have women in prominent positions, such as prime minister or defence secretary."

Might the disastrous Ukraine invasion not have gone ahead if there'd been more female voices in his Kremlin? "The problem is there isn't any diversity of opinion whatsoever. The war might not have gone ahead if he'd had anyone with a different perspective – but he would have had to listen to them."

Thus, it seems, did the Kremlin become the Novichok of toxic-mankind, with the hubris that led to the botched invasion looking likely to end in humiliating defeat. Far from capitulating with barely a shot, Ukrainian forces now appear to have the



overnight sensation, however. Hill woke up to find herself on the front page of every US newspaper – complete with explainer pieces about her accent – and calls on Twitter for her to be made president. "I was getting recognised by my neighbours, who suddenly started calling me 'Dr Hill,'" she says. More worryingly, her daughter – then 12 – heard some of the death threats left on the family home's answerphone. Hill told her that the callers were "cowards" and not to worry, but still taped up the letterbox in case of letter bombs.

Together with fellow witness David Holmes – a diplomat at the US embassy in Kyiv – she also got a fashion write-up in *The Washington Post*. It described their clothes as "reassuringly dull", but praised the two Russia experts as "keepers of obscure but incredibly important knowledge, sworn to tell the truth".

Yet, with hindsight, what seems just as alarming in the pair's testimony was their warnings about mounting Russian "aggression" towards Kyiv, which Trump seemed indifferent to. When the invasion started, Trump boasted that it would "never have happened" if he was still president. Hill begs to differ.

"One reason this went ahead was because Putin got the impression [from Trump] that America didn't fundamentally care about Ukraine, so Putin assumed Trump would do nothing," she says. "Nor would there be the level of support for Ukraine's defence that there is now in the war, as Trump would have been too divisive a figure for Europe to rally behind."

One thing she does credit Trump with, though, is an instinctive empathy for those left behind by globalisation – be they in the closed coal mines of England's north east, America's rust-belt heartlands, or the vast coal and steel yards of Ukraine's eastern Donbas. It is no coincidence that this is the part of Ukraine where pro-Moscow sentiment is strongest – fuelled by nostalgia for a Soviet past when jobs were guaranteed.

"The Durham Miners' Association had links to the Donbas going back to the 1920s," Hill says. "These are blue-collar areas that act as melting pots, but – when the jobs go – people feel utterly dislocated, and

'The Russian leader got the impression that Trump didn't care about Ukraine'

disassociated from the rest of the country."

As she points out in her book – which interweaves her own story with that of these lost communities in Russia, the US and the UK – they are fertile territory for populists like Trump and Putin. Yet if the Russian leader loses the war in Ukraine, will that support finally end?

Once again, Hill is cautious. There are, though, "lots of signs of cracks in the support". Despite soaring energy prices temporarily boosting Russia's coffers, sanctions will have an effect long-term, as Europe weans itself off Russian oil and gas. Talented, educated Russians are leaving in droves, sapping the economy even more. And some of those left behind, she points out, are finally speaking their minds.

"Members of the local political parties in St Petersburg and Moscow are starting to write letters saying that Putin should step down, or actually be prosecuted for this," she says. "Right-wing bloggers and people on TV are beginning to criticise him – this discontent has been percolating for some time."

At the very least, it may mean Putin is far from a shoo-in for Russia's 2024 elections. But even if there was a coup against him, it seems more likely to be led by fellow hardliners than cuddly liberals. And even in the event of a Russian defeat, there is still the longer-term question of making Moscow accept that old-school imperialism is not acceptable in the 21st century. But while empire is already a dirty word in the West, it may take rather more to promote a "de-colonisation" narrative in Russia. As Hill points out, Moscow's triumph against Hitler's Nazis has become practically "a state religion". Too much guilt-tripping will simply alienate Russia more.

"We've got to give them the space to come to terms with what they've done [in Ukraine]," she says. "But it's very delicate right now. Having strategic empathy for Russia and Russians is very hard when they're in the midst of mass slaughter."

And what of her own future? She and her husband, Kenneth Keen, a business consultant who she met at Harvard, currently live with their daughter in Washington. She works for the Brookings Institution, an influential Washington foreign policy think tank, but after living in the States since 1989, and now a US citizen, she is considering a move back to return to the North East to help with "levelling up" in education. It is, she says, the way she got ahead – and it might ensure that more kids with broad North East accents might end up as ambassadors and Foreign Office mandarins. "There's been a big push in diversity in gender, race, but it needs to be of region too, to reach out to working class kids from old industrial areas."

She'd also be handier, of course, for helping Liz Truss deal with Putin – although she declines to say whether the new PM has declined to say whether the new PM has been in touch. It would surely not be surprising, though, if a certain "nondescript older woman" was seen popping into Downing Street...

Fiona Hill

'There are signs that support for Putin is cracking'

The Durham miner's daughter turned White House policy adviser tells Colin Freeman why she thinks Russia is losing the war against Ukraine

upper hand, launching major counter-offensives against the Russian occupiers in both the south and the east.

Ominously for Putin, this is not just the view of hawkish commentators in the West. Even Russia's pro-war bloggers – a small but influential community of ex-military commanders, Wagner Group mercenaries and ultra-nationalists – see Russia's military performance as a disaster. Because they actively support the invasion, their running

commentaries do not attract the same censorship as mainstream Russian media. But now that the war is no longer going their way, they have become openly despairing. As one of them, Igor Girkin – a former leader of separatist forces in eastern Ukraine – declared last week: "We have already lost, the rest is just a matter of time."

So does Hill agree? Like any seasoned security official, she stops short of claiming that victory is in sight. Big wars like this are waged in ebbs and flows, with progress measured by months and years, not weekly news-cycles. But she says it shows Ukraine is clearly "able to turn the tide". That alone may be the confidence booster Ukraine's European allies need as they brace themselves for a grim winter of Kremlin-inflicted gas shortages.

"There's still a long way to go, because it's not like Ukraine goes, that's because things aren't going his way. He wants us to back off because of fears about World War Three – to basically give up on Ukraine and sue for peace on his terms."

Hill frets about Armageddon as much as anyone: it was growing up in Britain at the height of the Cold War in the 1980s, and watching nuclear doomsday films like *Threads*, that first motivated her to study Russian. But it doesn't seem to give her particularly sleepless nights at the moment.

"There is always that risk," she says of low-yield nuclear weapons. "But this cornered rat story comes from Putin himself – it's a way of saying 'don't test me, I will fight back' and presenting himself as the kind of ruthless leader Russia needs. He's already done a lot of nuclear sabre-rattling for the war in Ukraine, but that's because things aren't going his way."

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Nonetheless, as a man who exercises iron control over his cabinet, Putin has

military and financial support to Ukraine the sense that this is actually paying off. So if nothing else, it's a spur for continuing."

Or is it? One nightmare scenario is that Putin might seek to level the score by using low-yield "tactical" nuclear weapons in Ukraine. Such devices can be small enough to destroy just a village. But they still spread radiation and carry the same power to terrify – not least by underscoring Putin's willingness to cross lines that other nations won't. There is also a fear that Putin is at his most dangerous with his back up against the wall – based on approving comments he once made about how a rat will attack when cornered.

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In studying a Russia that was down on its luck, though, she brought a certain empathy from her impoverished childhood in County Durham. It was the time of the pit

fewer constraints on him than Soviet-era leaders, when a Politburo might query rash decisions. And, in reviving might-is-right in global politics, Hill thinks Putin has upped the risk of nuclear war more generally – something more pacifist European nations should wake up to.

"Outside of the UK and France, where we do have nuclear arsenals, a lot of people in Europe have been kind of pretending that the nuclear age has gone, that we are in a completely different space," she says. "But one reason there was so much focus on Iran's atomic programme was the range of ballistic missiles it was developing, which could hit European cities. We've been in a pretty dangerous nuclear age for some time."

So who exactly is Hill, and why have world leaders wanted to listen to her? One reason is sheer expertise – after studying Russian and Modern History at the University of St Andrews (that Oxford interview didn't work out), she did a PhD at Harvard and worked for influential Washington foreign policy think tanks. Her curiosity took her to many of post-Soviet Russia's grimmer corners, including spending time with Chechen separatists. They too proved somewhat toxic hosts, spiking her drink in a hotel bar after telling her that she "asked too many questions". Hill passed out and was violently ill: she believes she was poisoned as a "warning".

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closures and the miners' strike, and life opportunities were either thin or thwarted. Hill won a scholarship to private school, but couldn't go because her parents lacked the money for the uniform and books. Her father – who scraped by as a hospital porter after losing his job as a miner – advised her to start a life elsewhere. His comment – "There's nothing for you here, pet" – would later inspire the title of her book.

In Washington, where her north-east accent was a novelty, not a handicap, she thrived. An impressed George W Bush, for example, called her "Blair's girl", in recognition of a visit he once made to Tony Blair's old County Durham constituency. But it was during her time testifying in Trump's impeachment hearing that her voice also became familiar on American news networks.

Hill had prepared carefully for the hearings – aware that in the frenzied atmosphere of the Trump impeachment hearings, the Nondescript Older Woman would now be centre stage. She dressed smartly but plainly, hoping that the media would concentrate on her message rather than her appearance. She also began her address by thanking her adopted homeland, saying it had "offered me opportunities I never would have had in England".

Much of her testimony involved complex questions over whether Trump had tried to pressure Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky – then little known to most Americans – to investigate Joe Biden's son's business dealings in Ukraine. It still made her an overnight sensation, however. Hill woke up to find herself on the front page of every US newspaper – complete with explainer pieces about her accent – and calls on Twitter for her to be made president. "I was getting recognised by my neighbours, who suddenly started calling me 'Dr Hill,'" she says. More worryingly, her daughter – then 12 – heard some of the death threats left on the family home's answerphone. Hill told her that the callers were "cowards" and not to worry, but still taped up the letterbox in case of letter bombs.

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Britain catches falafel fever

The rise in Middle Eastern immigration and the trend towards plant-based food are fuelling the craze. By Tomé Morrissy-Swan

There's no surer sign another country's food has hit the mainstream in Britain than its presence on a rural pub menu. These days, alongside fish and chips, halloumi fries and Panang curry, you may well spot falafel.

Across the country, in restaurants, takeaways and street-food stalls, the Middle Eastern patties are proliferating like never before. Go Falafel, founded in Manchester in 2012, now has three sites in the city, two in London and one in Liverpool. In Bradford, Falafel n' Juice opened last year and has received rave reviews from locals on social media. This summer, the Israeli pitta chain Miznon opened in Soho, in London, and Dubai's Operation: Falafel is arriving later this year.

Driving this boom, according to those who run the restaurants, is a rise in interest in veganism, increasingly well-travelled customers, immigration from the Middle East and the belief that falafel is healthy, at least in relation to other fast food stalwarts such as burgers and pizza. Full of fibre,

protein and vitamins, a falafel wrap filled with plenty of salad is only let down in the health stakes by deep-frying. "Having said that, it's still a better choice nutritionally compared to many other fast foods," says health writer Sam Rice.

One of the most popular lunches among *Telegraph* staff is the long-running falafel stand at a nearby street-food market in Pimlico. For £5, a huge wrap is stuffed with freshly fried falafel, salad, hummus, tahini, pickled turnips, potatoes and aubergine. Halloumi is extra. It's so filling that working in the afternoon can be a struggle.

The deep-fried balls or patties of ground chickpea or fava beans, with added herbs, spices and onion and garlic, are widely eaten across the Middle East. While it varies from region to region, they're often consumed in a wrap or pitta with salad, tahini, pickles and chilli sauce. A cheap, filling street food, falafel should be eaten as soon as it emerges from the fryer, piping hot and crunchy on the outside; light and soft within.

Eyal Shani, an Israeli celebrity chef and founder of Miznon, describes the perfectly constructed falafel sandwich as a "seductive journey into the bottom of the pitta, where all the sauces come out – that's the best bit, it [tastes like] heaven".

Though long popular in Britain, particularly among immigrant communities, falafel is now a nationwide staple, and has swiftly become one of our most popular fast foods. Even supermarkets are crammed with oven-bake options, often with novelty flavours, which Helen Graham, executive chef at London's Bubala, says are best avoided. "I don't think falafel should be refrigerated and then heated, you lose that lightness," she explains.

"When I opened my shop in Norwich in 2011, there wasn't anything like it," says Samia King, founder of Moorish Falafel. Now there is a second site, and Norwich is one of the country's top cities for vegan food.

It is a seductive journey into the bottom of the pitta where the sauces come out – it's heaven'

While King's recipe is based on the Israeli version, using cumin, coriander, paprika, garlic, onion and fresh herbs in the patty and served in pitta, she likes to experiment. A Mexican option mixes falafel with guacamole; a Greek one with feta. "We get people telling us we're doing it all wrong, and [other] people telling us it's amazing."

Miznon doesn't serve falafel in any of its Israeli or global sites, but when opened in London, Shani decided to include the dish. This is because, despite the city's clear love of falafel, he didn't think the local offering was up to scratch.

"I said, 'I will make it better'. I felt that if I love falafel so much, why not give it to people here.' His falafel, which surprisingly uses Guinness to add lightness, has gone down well in the capital.

Yet many would disagree that London's falafel offering is below par. From the Lebanese restaurants in Park Royal and the Edgware Road to Balady, a small kosher chain, London's falafel scene is booming. Mr Falafel, a Palestinian-run spot in Shepherd's Bush, west London, has a cult following, and falafel comes in several styles, including Iraqi (with a pickled mango condiment called amba). Served in a wrap rather than pita, it nevertheless "hits the spot", says Sami Tamimi, the Jerusalem-born founding director of the Ottolenghi restaurants, and co-author, with Yotam Ottolenghi, of the bestselling *Jerusalem* cookbook. In Turkish, Greek and Syrian restaurants, too, falafel is ubiquitous, often as part of a mezze platter.

Fast food: Tomé Morrissy-Swan with his falafel wrap at Tachbrook Street Market

Falafel is not without controversy. Like with hummus, there is fervent debate, particularly in Israel and Palestine, over cultural appropriation. A popular song in Israel in 1958 went "Only we have falafel". However, in the 1990s, its lyricist Dan Almagor admitted he would include a line about falafel's Arab origins if he re-wrote it and, for many, the dish is just a deep-fried pulse patty shared across religious, ethnic and geographical boundaries.

"If we have all these dishes without labelling them as mine or yours [and] instead say 'us', that would be a lot easier to swallow for everybody," says Tamimi.

One thing almost all agree on is that falafel's origins lie in Egypt, where it is

made from broad beans rather than chickpeas and known as ta'amya. London-born Ahmed El Shimi founded the award-winning Wowshee Egyptian Falafel, a street-food stall in Soho, in 2017. He says one theory is that Coptic Christians would make the patties during Lent, when meat was eschewed, making falafel, perhaps, the original meat substitute. "It's important to show it's Egyptian, too," says El Shimi.

Back in Pimlico on a Friday afternoon, the street-food market is bustling in the warm autumnal sunshine. Charcoal smoke wafts enticingly from the kebab stall; the hot woks at the pad Thai stand create wonderful stir fries in minutes. But there's only one place for me: the falafel stand. Many others clearly feel the same – it almost always has the longest queue.



MAKE YOUR OWN FALAFEL

Recipe from Falastin: A Cookbook by Sami Tamimi and Tara Wigley (£28, Ebury)

Makes 16 falafel, serves four to six

Ingredients

250g dried chickpeas
2 garlic cloves, crushed
25g parsley, roughly chopped
25g coriander, roughly chopped
15g mint leaves, roughly chopped
1 medium onion, finely chopped (300g)
1 tsp Aleppo chilli flakes (or ½ tsp regular chilli flakes)
1¼ tsp ground cumin
1¼ tsp coriander seeds, finely crushed in a pestle and mortar
¾ tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 tbsp sumac
1 tbsp sesame seeds
About 800ml sunflower oil, to fry

Method

(Shortcut: the sumac onion is an untraditional addition. It adds a nice bite of tart surprise to the falafel but you can skip this stage, if you like, and just make the falafel without the filling.)

Place the chickpeas in a bowl and cover with at least twice their volume of cold water. Soak overnight.

The next day, drain the chickpeas (they should weigh 480g now), then combine them with the garlic, parsley, coriander, mint and three-quarters of the chopped onions.

Put half the mix into a food processor and blitz

for about 2 minutes, scraping down the sides a couple of times if you need to, until the paste is damp and slightly mushy.

Transfer to a large bowl and repeat with the remaining half of the mix. Add this to the bowl as well, along with the chilli flakes, cumin, coriander and 1½ teaspoons of salt.

Using your hands, mix well to combine. Add the bicarbonate of soda and give the mixture another good mix.

Place the remaining onions in a bowl with the sumac and 1¼ teaspoons of salt. Mix well and set aside.

When shaping the falafel, keep your hands wet, which makes it easier to work with the mixture. Spoon 2 tablespoons of the mixture (about 50g) into the palm of your hand and form a ball. Don't press too hard, as this will make the falafel too dense.

Then with a wet finger, make a large hollow in the middle of each ball.

Spoon a teaspoon of the sumac onion mixture into the hollow and then shape it again, so that most of the filling is covered. Flatten into a patty – about 6cm wide and 1½ cm thick – and, using your little finger, make a small indentation: this will ensure that the inside gets evenly cooked.

Serve at once.

Place on a parchment-lined tray and continue with the remaining mixture: you should have enough to shape 16 falafel.

Sprinkle the tops lightly with the sesame seeds, pressing them in slightly so that they don't fall off when the falafel are fried. (At this stage, the falafel can be frozen, if you like.)

When ready to serve, fill a deep, heavy-based medium saucepan – about 20cm wide – with enough of the oil so that it rises about 7cm up the side of the pan.

Place on a medium to high heat and bring the oil to a temperature of 180°C if you have a thermometer.

If you don't have a thermometer, just add a little bit of the falafel mixture to the pan: if it sizzles at once, you will know that the oil is hot enough.

Carefully lower the falafel in batches into the oil – you should be able to fit four falafel in the pan at once – and cook for 5–6 minutes, or until well browned and cooked through. They need to spend this long in the oil to really dry out on the inside, so don't be tempted to take them out too soon.

Use a slotted spoon to transfer the falafel to a colander that is lined with kitchen paper while you continue with the remaining batches.

Serve at once.



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(Open 9am–6pm weekdays)
mind.org.uk



0808 801 0525
(Open 9.30am–4pm weekdays)
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youngminds.org.uk

Meet the new (gender-fluid) king of fashion

Beyoncé and Harry Styles adore him and he wowed London Fashion Week. Harris Reed has very much arrived, says *Laura Craik*

Staging a fashion show is always a fraught affair. But never more so than during a period of mourning, mere days before the state funeral of Britain's beloved and longest-serving monarch. In the run-up to his presentation, fashion designer Harris Reed posted an Instagram message that summed up the thoughts of his contemporaries about to show at London Fashion Week. "After the news of the Queen's passing, it's been incredible to see how the community has pulled together," he wrote. "I hope it instils how important fashion is at times like these. Fashion makes us dream. It brings us joy."

Reed's clothes have certainly been bringing joy to a slew of celebrities in recent months. Harry Styles wore one of his skirts on the cover of US *Vogue*. Adele wore one of his pussy bow blouses in a recent music video. Reed dressed Iman, David Bowie's widow, for this year's Met Gala, and has also provided clothes for actresses Emma Watson and Emma Corrin, and pop stars Miley Cyrus and Beyoncé, who appeared on the July cover of British *Vogue* sitting on a horse, dressed in one of his signature circular headpieces.

Reed posted on Instagram at the time: "This one's for my queers and people stepping out into this world being nothing less than they truly are: loud, proud, and turning heads by using fashion as their weapon to invoke change, conversation and hope."

That Reed expresses himself with the same soundbite-loving conviction as a motivational speaker is just one reason that he's so beloved by his fans. At 6ft 4in in his socks and several inches taller in his platform shoes, 26-year-old Reed is a striking figure who charms everyone who meets him, including the notoriously hard to please Anna Wintour. With a gimlet eye on the zeitgeist, Condé Nast's global chief content director recognises that Reed's gender fluidity, and his outspokenness about it, makes him very much a designer for our times. Like Harry Styles or Timothée Chalamet, Reed's unabashed wearing of makeup, dresses and platform heels makes him hugely appealing to Gen Z, many of whom find binary gender definitions both limiting and old-fashioned.

Part of the reason Reed's star has risen so high in such a short time is thanks to the connections he forged in Hollywood, where he was brought up by his Oscar-winning documentary-maker father, Nick (who is English) and his American mother, Lynette, a former model. While he has never denied being a "nepo baby" (Gen Z's term for those who have benefited from nepotism by dint of having parents already famous in their chosen field), he also recognises that connections can only get a person so far. As he recently opined in an



Breaking the mould: Harris Reed, left, debuted his latest collection in a show at London Fashion Week, above, entitled 'Mise en Scène'

interview: "What keeps me in the room is myself."

Those who know Reed attest to a charisma that draws people to him like moths to a flame – almost literally, given his shock of fiery copper hair. "Harris just has that star quality. I think he's the next great British talent, the next Alexander McQueen," says Marisa Hordern, founder of the jewellery brand, Missoma, who approached Reed to design a collection last year. "One of the pieces we created was a butterfly necklace, because the butterfly embodies both sexes, and is very fluid."

Fashion has been trying to anoint "the next Alexander McQueen" ever since the designer tragically passed away in 2010 at the height of his talents, aged 40. Superficially, there are similarities between McQueen and Reed: both have a knack for high theatre, and excel at shows which pack an emotional punch. Like McQueen, Reed loves historical references, tailoring and corsetry, though he would probably be the first to admit that, at 26, he has a way to go before

Alexander McQueen and Harris Reed both have a knack for high theatre and shows with an emotional punch

becoming as adroit in the art of tailoring as McQueen. He would also admit that society is more accepting of homosexuality and gender fluidity than it was in the 1990s, when McQueen was starting out.

If McQueen wrestled with his sexuality, Reed is more at ease with his. McQueen's muses were women like former model Annabel Nielson and Isabella Blow, Reed's are people like him, defined less by their gender. "I'm very fluid and I still love that concept, but I hate the notion that there's now a 'gender-fluid' category," he recently told *Soho House* magazine. "Are we just making another box?"

Thursday evening's presentation was Reed's first proper catwalk show since graduating from Central Saint Martin's a mere two years ago, and was impressive in ambition and reach. Held in the gothic environs of the Dutch Hall, a Grade II-listed church in the City of London, the show was full of the exaggerated proportions for which Reed is most known, and which command such presence on magazine covers, red carpets and social media.

Titled "Mise en Scène", the collection explored the performative nature of dressing, using the codes of debutante ball. Ball gowns with crinoline skirts were inverted, the models' corseted waists looking all the narrower for being offset with volumes of silk organza. Hats, by long-time collaborator Vivienne Lake, came in Reed's trademark spherical forms that act as halos to draw attention to the wearers' faces.

With the Queen's sad death front of mind, it was hard not to imagine the regal fabrics – velvet, duchess satin and silk – as tributes, an idea enhanced by their rich colour scheme of peacock and royal blue.

The final exit, the bride, clutched a lily of the valley bouquet – the Queen's favourite flower – was another tribute, as was Adam Lambert singing Queen's "Who Wants To Live Forever", a spectacle that caused Reed's mother, at least, to shed a tear. If the show must go on, Reed's was as sensitive an iteration as any, one that cements his reputation for the "fluid fashion" that his fans so love.

Are you a tiger mother or a pussycat parent?

As a softer approach to parenting gains ground, Rosa Silverman tunes into her children's feelings

"**Y**ou can only have chocolate if you apologise." Seeing those words in writing, I realise how odd they look. And yet it's exactly the sort of threat I issue to my six-year-old. The conversation usually continues thus:

Her (grumpily): "Sorry."

Me: "You have to mean it."

Her: "(Slightly more high-pitched):

"Sorry."

Me: "Fine, here's the chocolate, but don't do [whatever you just did] again."

This is not OK. I should not be forcing my child to apologise, nor offering a bribe. Not according to proponents of gentle parenting, a craze currently sweeping the US and the UK.

The term is a loose, catch-all description of a style that rejects authoritarian models and the notion we should shape our children's behaviour via a carrot-and-stick approach. Instead, the new thinking goes, we should consider what's happening for our children and respond to their emotional needs. Goodbye, tiger mums; hello pussycat parents!

Shouting at them is out (fair enough). There is no longer a naughty step. In its place, there is understanding, patience, empathy and respect. Even if it's 8.45am and your

children are putting on their shoes intolerably slowly before school, when you're about to miss your train to work.

Popular advocates of this gentler approach, also known as respectful parenting, include Dr Becky Kennedy, a New York-based clinical psychologist and mother of three. Dr Becky, as she's known, founded the parenting community Good Inside, and her book of the same name was published this week. She has 1.3 million followers on Instagram, where she posts upbeat videos, with titles like "When your child says 'I hate you!'" And, yes: "Don't force your child to apologise".

I'm curious to know why sorry seems to be the wrongest word, as I've always assumed a child must apologise when they've been – to invert Dr Becky's formula – bad outside.

What should I do instead? "Roll with the resistance," she suggests. "We might say: 'It's hard to find your apology voice now. That happens to me sometimes too. I'll use it for you.' Then we might model the apology for them, saying: 'I'm sorry. I was frustrated, and it came out as a hit.'

Her suggested scripts are a huge hit with mothers – and it is mostly mothers – who say she helps them "grow" as parents.

"I wish I could just carry you in my pocket at all times," comments one, beside her video. "You are a gift to all of us," writes another.

Time magazine has dubbed 39-year-old Dr Becky "the Millennial Parenting Whisperer". In her book (subtitled "A guide to becoming the parent you



Animal approach: Experts used to espouse the benefits of strict or 'tiger' parenting, but trends now point to softer approaches

want to be," she writes: "You will not see me recommend time-outs, sticker charts, punishments, rewards, or ignoring as a response to challenging behaviours. What do I recommend? An understanding that behaviours are only the tip of the iceberg, and that below the surface is a child's entire internal world, just begging to be understood."

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"I wish I could just carry you in my pocket at all times," comments one, beside her video. "You are a gift to all of us," writes another.

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parenting method championed by Amy Chua, in which parents were heavily invested in their children's success; or the much-maligned "helicopter" parenting (overprotective, too involved, hovering over one's children). If these approaches were popular 10 years ago, many now seek an alternative, with the child's feelings at the centre.

Janet Lansbury, the US-based author of *No Bad Kids*, is another throwing light on how to be "respectful, gentle parents".

An Instagram post reads: "Punishments are inadequate teachers because they don't teach or model positive behaviour."

Another states: "When our children resist our eating agendas, it isn't a sign that they're ungrateful, cruel or manipulative. Rather it is a reflection

of their innate need to test both our leadership and their power."

That may be true, but the behaviour she describes is also immensely infuriating. I sense that my usual response to resistance to my "eating agenda" – expostulating, begging, bribing, then sulking when all this fails – is not one you'll find recommended in any of these Instagram posts.

In Britain, the psychotherapist Philippa Perry's 2019 best-seller *The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read (And Your Children Will Be Glad That You Did)* encourages us to understand how our own upbringing may affect our parenting. Because this, surely, is key: almost all of us, as parents, are reacting in some way to how we ourselves were raised.

If Dr Benjamin Spock urged parents in the 1940s and 50s to trust their instincts and reject the rigid disciplines of an earlier age, a stricter approach has periodically found its way back into parenting manuals, notably in Gina Ford's uncompromising advice for getting babies to sleep through the night.

Now, the pendulum is swinging back the other way. But not everyone is enamoured of the gentler approach. "I don't think it helps a child not to set rules and give rewards," says clinical psychologist Linda Blair. "Children need to know when they've done well. I'm not keen on punishment – I'm keen on ignoring bad behaviour when it's safe to do so and paying attention to good behaviour."

She has no problem with parents wanting to pay a reluctant child to do homework, either: "We work for rewards, why not them?"

Yet it's tempting to think we could forgo bribery and threats. When my children get home, I try out some gentle parenting. My eight-year-old son is furious because I didn't pack a snack for him. "Are you angry or hungry?" I ask, trying to understand his feelings. "Hungry," he seethes. I offer him food but he loses interest and wanders off to watch TV. I'm not sure what's been achieved, but I did remain calm throughout our exchange. Sometimes, when you're dealing with children, this feels like enough.

TWO SIDES OF THE PARENTING ARGUMENT



TIGER MUM, AMY CHUA

Eating

"Chinese mothers can say to their daughters, 'Hey fatty, lose some weight.'

By contrast, Western parents have to tiptoe around the issue, talking in terms of 'health' and never ever mentioning the f-word.

Children decide whether and how much to eat of what's offered."

Getting to bed

"The next time your child protests, share words like this: 'You really wish you could stay up later. I get that. Going to bed is often really hard for me too.'

Bad behaviour

"One of the first things Chinese people learn is that you must respect authority.

No matter what, you don't talk back to your parents, teachers, elders."



GENTLE PARENT, DR BECKY KENNEDY

Eating

"Parents decide what food is offered, where it is offered, when it is offered. I encourage parents to always offer one 'safe' food that your child likes."

Children decide whether and how much to eat of what's offered."

Getting to bed

"The next time your child protests, share words like this: 'You really wish you could stay up later. I get that. Going to bed is often really hard for me too.'

Bad behaviour

"When a kid is out of control they need the adult to be in control. So it's [about saying] 'I won't let you hit,' instead of 'go to your room for hitting.'

Compiled by Guy Kelly

Court & Social



Court Circular

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 15th

The Governor-General of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (Dame Susan Dougan) spoke to The King this evening.

The Governor-General of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea (Sir Robert Dadae) spoke to His Majesty.

September 16th
The King and The Queen Consort this morning attended a Service of Prayer and Reflection for the Life of the late Queen in Llandaff Cathedral, Cardiff, and were received by His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan.

The First Minister of Wales was received in audience by His Majesty.

The Presiding Officer for the Senedd was received by The King.

Their Majesties subsequently gave a Reception for Members of the Senedd.

The King and The Queen Consort afterwards drove to Cardiff Castle and were received by Sir Brooke Boothby, Bt (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan).

The First Minister of Wales was received in audience by His Majesty.

The Presiding Officer for the Senedd was received by The King.

Their Majesties subsequently gave a Reception for Members of the Senedd.

The King later received Faith Leaders at Buckingham Palace.

This evening The King, accompanied by The Queen Consort, The Duke of York, The Earl of Wessex, accompanied by The Countess of Wessex, and The Princess Royal, accompanied by Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence, Mounted Vigil at the Coffin of Her late Majesty as it Lay in State in Westminster Hall, Palace of Westminster.

Princess Beatrice, Mrs Edwina Mapelli Mozzi and Mr Edwina Mapelli Mozzi and Princess Eugenie, Mrs Jack Brooksbank and Mr Jack Brooksbank, The Lady Louise Mountbatten-Windsor and Viscount Severn, Mr Peter Phillips, Mr and Mrs Michael Tindall, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, Royal Ballet, 1995-19. 65; the Hon

Sullivan, a former Law Student of Appeal; Senior President of Tribunals, 2012-15; 77; Mr Michael Jack, former Conservative MP; 76; Ms Maura Buchanan, President, Royal College of Nursing, 2006-10; 74; Mr John Claughton, Chief Master, King Edward's School, Birmingham, 2006-16; 66; Sir David Bintley, choreographer; Artistic Director, Birmingham Royal Ballet, 1995-19. 65; the Hon

in 1709.

Today is the anniversary of the British First Airborne Division's landing at Arnhem in 1944.

Tomorrow will be the anniversary of the birth of Dr Samuel Johnson in 1709.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

The Daily Telegraph

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 1922

CRUELTY TO CHILD.

FATHER AND STEPMOTHER GUILTY.

Joan, the wistful child of eight found "very cold and very hungry" on the doorstep in Jermyn-street, S.W., at eleven o'clock at night by a policeman, attended Marlborough-street Police-court on Saturday. A strange, sad story of her neglect by her father and stepmother had been told. George William Saunders and his wife Della are occupants of an expensive flat in Jermyn-street, S.W. They are accused of wilfully neglecting Joan, the child of Mr. Saunders's first marriage, in a way likely to cause her unnecessary suffering and injury to health.

It is alleged that the defendants went away for a week-end leaving Joan with only a dog for company and some bread and butter, and that she was told that she could, after doing house-work, go into the Green Park and look after herself. She lost the latchkey of the flat, and the policeman who discovered her took her to a Vine-street police-station.

Joan came into court twice during the day's proceedings. On the first occasion she stood just below the magisterial dais near the desk of the magistrate's clerk.

Mr. d'Eyncourt sentenced each of the defend-

ants to two months in the second division. There is to be an appeal against both sentences.

Mr. d'Eyncourt said: I don't think I have ever had a case quite like this before. It is certainly a very peculiar case. Here are two people of education and very good position. They are not guilty of cruelty in the ordinary sense at all. There seems to be no active cruelty against this child in any way. The child Joan is an extremely bright and intelligent child - a splendid little child - a very precious possession, as every child is. You, the defendants, left this child from Saturday till Monday. You say you missed your train, and it seems it could have easily been caught if you wanted to do so. You left the child absolutely by herself. That seems to me in itself a very heartless thing to do, not mere thoughtless cruelty. I think Joan is a splendid little girl. Any sort of accident might have happened to her. She did have an accident; she lost her key. The child has said she was not frightened, and although Joan had also said - and I have no reason to doubt it - that you were not unkind to her, it was a most cruel and heartless thing to do; a most extraordinary thing to do, to abandon this child in the way she was abandoned.

The magistrate continued: I have no way of making people of your sort, who do not love children, do so, but one can stop people doing this sort of thing - cruel, heartlessly cruel, to abandon a child in this way.

The magistrate sentenced the defendants, as stated above.

Church services tomorrow

14th Sunday after Trinity

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 8.45 Morning Prayer; 11.15 Requiem Eucharist; Sacram; 3 Evensong, Rev Jonathan Clark, Bishop for the Falkland Islands; 4.30 Organ Recital, William Fox, also via youtube.com/user/StPaulsLondon; 5.30 Choral Evensong.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 8.30 Morning Prayer; 9 Eucharist, Treasurer; 11 Choral Eucharist, Treasurer; A Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Southwark.

BISHOP OF LONDON: 9.30 Night Prayer. Streaming details from cathedral.southwark.anglican.org

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: 11 Parish Sung Eucharist, Martin Carr. Online viewing via abbit.org.uk

ALL SAINTS, Margaret St: 11 High Mass of Requiem for the late Queen, St Julian Browning 6 Choral Evensong and Benediction in memory of the late Queen. Also streamed from allsaaintsmargaretstreet.royal.uk

ALL SOULS, Langham Place: Worship at 9.30, 11.30 and 5.30. Services are also streamed from www.allsoulsonline.org

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: 11 Requiem Eucharist for the late Queen, Rev Alan Piggott.

HTB Brompton Rd: Informal Service 9.30, Tash Kusi; 11.30, Tash Kusi; 5 Rebekah Weller. 11.30 Service live streamed from htbs.org

HTB Onslow Square: Informal Service 10.30, Ryan Rodriguez; 4.30, Tash Kusi; and 6.30, Tash Kusi. 11.30 Service live streamed from htbs.org

HOLY TRINITY, Sloane Square: 11 Sung Eucharist with Act of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Rev Michael Marshall; 6 Solemn Evensong and Requiem for the late Queen, Rev Yaroslav Sky Walker.

ST BARTHolemew THE GREAT, Cloth Fair: 9 Eucharist (said); 10 Family Eucharist; Rector; 11 Choral Eucharist and Sermon, Fr Jeremy Haselock; 5 Choral Evensong and Sermon, Rector. Booking and streaming details from www.greatstearths.com

ST BRIDES, Fleet St: 11 Choral Eucharist, Rector; 5.30 Choral Evensong. Also available to view via stbridges.com

ST CLEMENT DANES, Strand: 11 Battle of Britain Service.

ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS: 11 Sung HC, Rev Tom Sanders; 6.30 Evensong, Rev Tom Sanders.

ST JAMES GARLICKHYTHE, Garlick Hill: 10.30 Sung Eucharist. Watch online via www.stjamesgarlickhythe.org

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 11 Eucharist, also streamed via sjp.org.uk; 6 Taizé Prayer.

ST PAUL'S, Covent Garden: 11 Choral Eucharist, also streamed via archschurch.org

ST PAUL'S, Knightsbridge: 11 Sung Eucharist, Fr Luigi Gioia; 7 Solemn Requiem, Canon Alan Gyle. Also streamed via www.spk.org.uk

KING'S CHAPEL, Savoy Hill: 11 Requiem Eucharist, Canon Thomas Woodhouse.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington

Barracks: 11 Choral HC, Band of the Coldstream Guards, Chaplain.

OLD ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE

CHAPEL: 11 Choral Eucharist, Rev Dr Robert Tobin, also streamed from www.ornc.org

CROWN COURT (C-o-S), Covent Garden: 11.15 Morning Worship, Rev Scott Remond. A recorded service can be viewed via crowncourtchurch.org.uk

COVENTRY: 8.30 Welcome to Sunday, online only; 10.30 Cathedral Eucharist; 12 Litany of Reconciliation; 4 Civic Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for the late Queen. Streaming details from Coventrycathedral.org.uk

DERBY: 8.30 HC, 10.45 Cathedral Eucharist, Dean; 5.15 A Service of Reflection on the Eve of the Funeral of the late Queen, Bishop of Repton

Streaming details from derbycathedral.org

DURHAM: 8 HC; 10 Mattins, Canon Simon Oliver; 11.15 Sung Eucharist, Canon Michael Hampel; 3.30 Evensong. Streaming details from durhamcathedral.co.uk

ELY: 8.15 HC, 10.30 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen; 4 Evensong, Canon James Revelley.

EVERTON: 8 HC; 9 Morning Prayer; 10 Choral Eucharist; 3 Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving for the late Queen, book via website; 6 Sundays@6. Streaming details from www.evertoncathedral.org.uk

GLOUCESTER: 10.15 Eucharist, Rev Tom Clammer, also streamed via gloucestercathedral.org.uk; 3 Evensong.

GUILDFORD: 7.45 Morning Prayer; 8 HC; 9.45 Cathedral Eucharist with Installation of Head and Deputy Head Choristers; 6 Choral Evensong with Installation of Canon Liturgist.

HEREFORD: 8 HC; 10 Cathedral Eucharist, Archdeacon of Ludlow; 11.30 Morning Prayer; 3.30 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Hereford.

ISLE OF MAN: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Choral Eucharist with Canon Peter Dobson; 4.30 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Manx.

MANCHESTER: 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Manchester.

MILTON KEYNES: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Milton Keynes.

NEWCASTLE: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Newcastle.

NOTTINGHAM: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Nottingham.

OXFORD: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Oxford.

PETERBOROUGH: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Peterborough.

PORTSMOUTH: 8 HC; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Portsmouth.

RIPON: 8 HC; 9.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Ripon.

ROCHester: 9 Choral Evensong, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of Rochester.

ST ALBANS: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Will Gibbs; 11.15 Mattins, Dean; 12.15 Eucharist; 6 Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of St Albans.

ST ASAPH: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of St Asaph.

ST CATHARINE: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of St Catharine.

ST EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH: 8 HC; 9 All Age Eucharist; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

ST MARY MAGDALENE: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of St Mary Magdalene.

ST MARY LE BORNE: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of St Mary le Bone.

ST MARY THE VINE: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of St Mary the Vine.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of St Mary the Virgin.

ST MARY THE WISDOM: 8.30 Sung Eucharist, Canon Peter Dobson; 10.30 Sung Eucharist, Rev Kate Scott; 4 Service of Thanksgiving for the late Queen, Bishop of St Mary the Wisdom.

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ST MARY

Eddie Butler

Welsh international who moved into the commentary box to become the BBC's 'voice of rugby'

EDDIE BUTLER, who has died aged 65, was a rugby player who captained club and country before going on to become a greatly admired broadcaster and commentator for the BBC.

On the pitch he was a powerful No 8 (anchoring the scrum from the back) and played 16 times for Wales, six of those games as captain. He had a brief stint with the British and Irish Lions and was a stalwart of the great Pontypool side of the late 1970s and 1980s.

After retiring from the game in 1990, he would eventually assume from Bill McLaren the mantle of the BBC's "voice of rugby", with his smooth yet passionate commentaries – more often than not alongside his friend and verbal sparring partner, Brian "Bulldog" Moore – and his moving, poetic voice-overs in a warm baritone that accompanied those stirring film montages the BBC do so well.

In the commentary box he was never short of a memorable line. In the 2008 Six Nations, as England fell apart in a winning position to lose their first home game against Wales for 20 years, he declared: "Oh, England, what have you done? And Wales, what are you doing?"

In 2005, a kick from Gavin Henson gave Wales a winning 11-9 lead against England. Before Henson took the kick, Moore remarked that the fly-half had told the media that he shaved his legs to reduce drag. Butler replied: "If he kicks this he can shave any part of his body he wants" – and as the ball sailed between the posts, he cried: "Shave away, Gavin! Shave away!"

Edward Thomas Butler was born on May 8 1957 in Newport, south Wales, the son of Kenneth and Margaret. When he was three the family moved to Raglan, near Pontypool, where Kenneth, who had moved from England just after the war, took a job as a research manager in a nylon factory.

Eddie was educated at the independent Monmouth School, then took a gap year in Spain before reading French and Spanish at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, becoming a triple rugby Blue and graduating in 1979.

Just before going up to Cambridge he had taken a call from Pontypool's legendary coach Ray Prosser, and would become one of the linchpins of a side that rampaged its way through the rest of that decade and the next.

"Ray Prosser was an absolute giant of the game," Butler recalled. "We had our set way of playing, which was very much the 'Pross' way. Rugby was to be played vigorously up front and everybody else had to fit into the mould. We trained mercilessly and then we had a very simple game plan."



Butler: a poet at the mic. Below, offloading to Wales teammate Adrian Hadley under a challenge from England's John Carleton in 1984

Basically, you sold yourself to the collective. There was absolutely no individual glory."

Butler would serve as Pontypool captain for three seasons during those glory years, and in 1980 he made his debut for Wales in the 18-9 win against France at Cardiff Arms Park. His first game as captain was a 13-13 stalemate against England in 1983 – "Totally disastrous," he said. "It was an ugly draw."

In fact, he came into the national side in what was a relatively fallow period following their all-conquering exploits of the Seventies. "It wasn't an easy ride," he admitted. "We were generally criticised far more in the media than we were praised, simply because everybody took it for granted that Wales would carry on winning." And, as he put it: "The captain was fair game."

In 1983 Butler was called up as replacement to the Lions tour of New Zealand, only to find that the two No 8s he was supposed to replace were fit again. On the bench for a game against Counties Manukau, he was jogging round the pitch when he was caught up in a brawl involving dozens of drunken spectators. "It became a bit of a Rorke's Drift moment in the middle of the pitch." He played in one tour game before his Lions time was up.

The following year, aged only 27, he quit the international stage when he realised that he was enjoying his BBC work more than the rugby, though he carried on until 1990 with Ponty (where he was known to his teammates as "Educated Edward" or "Bamber", thanks to his Cambridge years).

Alongside his playing career, Butler became a teacher in Cheltenham, then



in 1984 joined BBC Radio Wales as a press and publicity officer, and when he "fell out with the sports department", in his words, he forged a second career as a property developer.

In 1989 he began writing for the newly launched but short-lived *Sunday Correspondent*. "That was a brilliant job," he recalled. "It was the *Titanic* setting sail and we all knew it was heading straight for an iceberg, but boy, we parted on deck while it was afloat."

The paper folded after little more than a year, and in 1991 he joined *The Observer*, also writing for its sister paper *The Guardian*. By then he had returned to the BBC fold, thanks to his old Wales teammate Gareth Davies, who was head of sport for BBC Wales.

Butler did his first commentaries alongside Bill McLaren, and after the great man's retirement he became the BBC's lead rugby union commentator, though for a while he found it an uncomfortable step-up: "For the first time, I had to become a student of broadcasting."

He became known for his meticulous preparation (though he took few notes, preferring to keep the information in his head, likening the experience to cramming for an exam) and, just as McLaren had done years before, he developed his own inimitable style.

Away from rugby, he commented on the archery at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, and he also presented several BBC programmes about the country he loved so well, including *Welsh Towns at War, Wales and the History of the World, Hidden Histories* and two series of *Welsh Lives*.

He commented at the Invictus Games and even took on the occasional football job, including interviewing Eric Cantona, another sportsman with the soul of a poet, for *Grandstand* in 1994.

He wrote three novels, *The Asparagus Thieves*, set during the war, and the rugby-based *The Head of Gonzo Davies and Gonzo Davies, Caught in Possession*. In later years he became a staunch supporter of Welsh independence, and addressed a rally at Merthyr Tydfil in 2019.

Eddie Butler also became an ambassador for Prostate Cymru, and he was taking part in a trek for the charity in Peru, along with 25 others, including his daughter Nell, when he died in his sleep at Ecolink base camp near Cusco in the Andes.

He is survived by his second wife Susan, whom he married in 2009, and by three daughters and three sons.

Eddie Butler, born May 8 1957, died September 15 2022

Sacred Mysteries

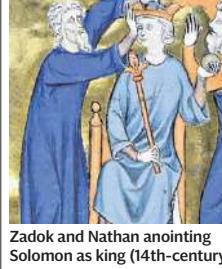
In the royal ceremonies we realise our beliefs

CHRISTOPHER HOWSE



is no resisting it. A worse kind of subversion is the invention of a rival piece of ritual. We saw it at the opening of the London Olympics in 2012. In a way it was a sort of pageant, but I didn't care for it. It seemed to make Britain an avatar of the National Health Service. A sequence was performed on a giant hospital bed. Was that the deepest expression of the country's identity? It wasn't even as if the NHS was doing terribly well, and it has done worse since.

It is that sort of freewheeling invention that I had feared for the next Coronation. Some of my fears have been assuaged by the words of King Charles. He had once spoken of being the defender of faiths, rather than the faith of the Church of England implied by the abbreviations found on our coinage: FID DEF – *fidei defensor*. In his first address on coming to the throne,



Zadok and Nathan anointing Solomon as king (14th-century)

King Charles called the Church of England "the church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted".

The Coronation takes place within the service of Holy Communion (even films from 1953 omit images of Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh receiving the Sacrament, as they did).

Sometimes I find the Church of England annoying. Who doesn't? But I'd rather have it as the Established Church than not. Just as Muslims and atheists came to the coronation in 1953, so should citizens from many religions take part in the next Coronation. But as the godly anointing of the head of state and supreme governor of the Church of England, the Coronation must retain the Christian elements that define it.

Chess

Young guns on the rise

By Michael Adams

THE September rating list saw a lot of young players shooting up the rankings. Sixteen-year-old Dommaraj Gukesh added 27 Elo points, mainly due to his excellent Olympiad performance, and is close to entering the top 20.

Here are two contrasting games from that event. In the first, creative play by both sides produces an original position early on. In the second game, Gukesh is well prepared in a critical line, and takes full advantage when the complications prove too much.

N. Georgiadis - D. Gukesh

Chennai Olympiad 2022
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.Nc3 c5 5.cxd5 cxd4 6.Qxd5 exd5 7.Bg5 Be7 8.c3 0-0 Rfd1 Be6 10.Qa4 h6 11.Qb5 Nf6 12.Nc3 Qb4 13.Rfd7 followed by 14.Rfd5 Qb4 14...Rxf5 15.Qd7 16.Rd6 17.Rfd5 Rf7 18.Qd7 19.Ne2 Rfd7 20.Qd6 21.Qd7 22.Qd8 Rf7 23.Qd9 Rf8 24.Qd10 Rf7 25.Qd11 Rf8 26.Qd12 Rf9 27.Qd13 Rf10 28.Qd14 Rf11 29.Qd15 Rf12 30.Qd16 Rf13 31.Qd17 Rf14 32.Qd18 Rf15 33.Qd19 Rf16 34.Qd20 Rf17 35.Qd21 Rf18 36.Qd22 Rf19 37.Qd23 Rf20 38.Qd24 Rf21 39.Qd25 Rf22 40.Qd26 Rf23 41.Qd27 Rf24 42.Qd28 Rf25 43.Qd29 Rf26 44.Qd30 Rf27 45.Qd31 Rf28 46.Qd32 Rf29 47.Qd33 Rf30 48.Qd34 Rf31 49.Qd35 Rf32 50.Qd36 Rf33 51.Qd37 Rf34 52.Qd38 Rf35 53.Qd39 Rf36 54.Qd40 Rf37 55.Qd41 Rf38 56.Qd42 Rf39 57.Qd43 Rf40 58.Qd44 Rf41 59.Qd45 Rf42 60.Qd46 Rf43 61.Qd47 Rf44 62.Qd48 Rf45 63.Qd49 Rf46 64.Qd50 Rf47 65.Qd51 Rf48 66.Qd52 Rf49 67.Qd53 Rf50 68.Qd54 Rf51 69.Qd55 Rf52 70.Qd56 Rf53 71.Qd57 Rf54 72.Qd58 Rf55 73.Qd59 Rf56 74.Qd60 Rf57 75.Qd61 Rf58 76.Qd62 Rf59 77.Qd63 Rf60 78.Qd64 Rf61 79.Qd65 Rf62 80.Qd66 Rf63 81.Qd67 Rf64 82.Qd68 Rf65 83.Qd69 Rf66 84.Qd70 Rf67 85.Qd71 Rf68 86.Qd72 Rf69 87.Qd73 Rf70 88.Qd74 Rf71 89.Qd75 Rf72 90.Qd76 Rf73 91.Qd77 Rf74 92.Qd78 Rf75 93.Qd79 Rf76 94.Qd80 Rf77 95.Qd81 Rf78 96.Qd82 Rf79 97.Qd83 Rf80 98.Qd84 Rf81 99.Qd85 Rf82 100.Qd86 Rf83 101.Qd87 Rf84 102.Qd88 Rf85 103.Qd89 Rf86 104.Qd90 Rf87 105.Qd91 Rf88 106.Qd92 Rf89 107.Qd93 Rf90 108.Qd94 Rf91 109.Qd95 Rf92 110.Qd96 Rf93 111.Qd97 Rf94 112.Qd98 Rf95 113.Qd99 Rf96 114.Qd100 Rf97 115.Qd101 Rf98 116.Qd102 Rf99 117.Qd103 Rf100 118.Qd104 Rf101 119.Qd105 Rf102 120.Qd106 Rf103 121.Qd107 Rf104 122.Qd108 Rf105 123.Qd109 Rf106 124.Qd110 Rf107 125.Qd111 Rf108 126.Qd112 Rf109 127.Qd113 Rf110 128.Qd114 Rf111 129.Qd115 Rf112 130.Qd116 Rf113 131.Qd117 Rf114 132.Qd118 Rf115 133.Qd119 Rf116 134.Qd120 Rf117 135.Qd121 Rf118 136.Qd122 Rf119 137.Qd123 Rf120 138.Qd124 Rf121 139.Qd125 Rf122 140.Qd126 Rf123 141.Qd127 Rf124 142.Qd128 Rf125 143.Qd129 Rf126 144.Qd130 Rf127 145.Qd131 Rf128 146.Qd132 Rf129 147.Qd133 Rf130 148.Qd134 Rf131 149.Qd135 Rf132 150.Qd136 Rf133 151.Qd137 Rf134 152.Qd138 Rf135 153.Qd139 Rf136 154.Qd140 Rf137 155.Qd141 Rf138 156.Qd142 Rf139 157.Qd143 Rf140 158.Qd144 Rf141 159.Qd145 Rf142 160.Qd146 Rf143 161.Qd147 Rf144 162.Qd148 Rf145 163.Qd149 Rf146 164.Qd150 Rf147 165.Qd151 Rf148 166.Qd152 Rf149 167.Qd153 Rf150 168.Qd154 Rf151 169.Qd155 Rf152 170.Qd156 Rf153 171.Qd157 Rf154 172.Qd158 Rf155 173.Qd159 Rf156 174.Qd160 Rf157 175.Qd161 Rf158 176.Qd162 Rf159 177.Qd163 Rf160 178.Qd164 Rf161 179.Qd165 Rf162 180.Qd166 Rf163 181.Qd167 Rf164 182.Qd168 Rf165 183.Qd169 Rf166 184.Qd170 Rf167 185.Qd171 Rf168 186.Qd172 Rf169 187.Qd173 Rf170 188.Qd174 Rf171 189.Qd175 Rf172 190.Qd176 Rf173 191.Qd177 Rf174 192.Qd178 Rf175 193.Qd179 Rf176 194.Qd180 Rf177 195.Qd181 Rf178 196.Qd182 Rf179 197.Qd183 Rf180 198.Qd184 Rf181 199.Qd185 Rf182 200.Qd186 Rf183 201.Qd187 Rf184 202.Qd188 Rf185 203.Qd189 Rf186 204.Qd190 Rf187 205.Qd191 Rf188 206.Qd192 Rf189 207.Qd193 Rf190 208.Qd194 Rf191 209.Qd195 Rf192 210.Qd196 Rf193 211.Qd197 Rf194 212.Qd198 Rf195 213.Qd199 Rf196 214.Qd200 Rf197 215.Qd201 Rf198 216.Qd202 Rf199 217.Qd203 Rf200 218.Qd204 Rf201 219.Qd205 Rf202 220.Qd206 Rf203 221.Qd207 Rf204 222.Qd208 Rf205 223.Qd209 Rf206 224.Qd210 Rf207 225.Qd211 Rf208 226.Qd212 Rf209 227.Qd213 Rf210 228.Qd214 Rf211 229.Qd215 Rf212 230.Qd216 Rf213 231.Qd217 Rf214 232.Qd218 Rf215 233.Qd219 Rf216 234.Qd220 Rf217 235.Qd221 Rf218 236.Qd222 Rf219 237.Qd223 Rf220 238.Qd224 Rf221 239.Qd225 Rf222 240.Qd226 Rf223 241.Qd227 Rf224 242.Qd228 Rf225 243.Qd229 Rf226 244.Qd230 Rf227 245.Qd231 Rf228 246.Qd232 Rf229 247.Qd233 Rf230 248.Qd234 Rf231 249.Qd235 Rf232 250.Qd236 Rf233 251.Qd237 Rf234 252.Qd238 Rf235 253.Qd239 Rf236 254.Qd240 Rf237 255.Qd241 Rf238 256.Qd242 Rf239 257.Qd243 Rf240 258.Qd244 Rf241 259.Qd245 Rf242 260.Qd246 Rf243 261.Qd247 Rf244 262.Qd248 Rf245 263.Qd249 Rf246 264.Qd250 Rf247 265.Qd251 Rf248 266.Qd252 Rf249 267.Qd253 Rf250 268.Qd254 Rf251 269.Qd255 Rf252 270.Qd256 Rf253 271.Qd257 Rf254 272.Qd258 Rf255 273.Qd259 Rf256 274.Qd260 Rf257 275.Qd261 Rf258 276.Qd262 Rf259 277.Qd263 Rf260 278.Qd264 Rf261 279.Qd265 Rf262 280.Qd266 Rf263 281.Qd267 Rf264 282.Qd268 Rf265 283.Qd269 Rf266 284.Qd270 Rf267 285.Qd271 Rf268 286.Qd272 Rf269 287.Qd273 Rf270 288.Qd274 Rf271 289.Qd275 Rf272 290.Qd276 Rf273 291.Qd277 Rf274 292.Qd278 Rf275 293.Qd279 Rf276 294.Qd280 Rf277 295.Qd281 Rf278 296.Qd282 Rf279 297.Qd283 Rf280 298.Qd284 Rf281 299.Qd285 Rf282 300.Qd286 Rf283 301.Qd287 Rf284 302.Qd288 Rf285 303.Qd289 Rf286 304.Qd290 Rf287 305.Qd291 Rf288 306.Qd292 Rf289 307.Qd293 Rf290 308.Qd294 Rf291 309.Qd295 Rf292 310.Qd296 Rf293 311.Qd297 Rf294 312.Qd298 Rf295 313.Qd299 Rf296 314.Qd300 Rf297 315.Qd301 Rf298 316.Qd302 Rf299 317.Qd303 Rf300 318.Qd304 Rf301 319.Qd305 Rf302 320.Qd306 Rf303 321.Qd307 Rf304 322.Qd308 Rf305 323.Qd309 Rf306 324.Qd310 Rf307 325.Qd311 Rf308 326.Qd312 Rf309 327.Qd313 Rf310 328.Qd314 Rf311 329.Qd315 Rf312 330.Qd316 Rf313 331.Qd317 Rf314 332.Qd3

Markets

Germany seizes three refineries run by Rosneft

By Rachel Millard

BERLIN has seized control of three oil refineries in Germany owned by Russia's state oil giant Rosneft, as it seeks to secure energy supplies in the wake of the Kremlin's invasion of Ukraine.

The German government is putting into trusteeship two Rosneft units which own stakes in refineries in Schwedt, Karlsruhe and Vohburg, accounting for about 12pc of German oil processing capacity.

The move comes as the EU prepares to ban imports of oil from Russia by the end of the year, with Germany setting out measures to make sure the refineries can receive oil from other routes.

It marks an escalation of the energy war between Russia and the EU since Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine, which has seen the Kremlin push the Continent to the brink of recession by cutting gas flows. Olaf Scholz, the German chancellor, said he was prepared for the risk of retaliation from Mr Putin over the oil refineries, such as a halt to oil deliveries.

Oil stores in Schwedt and

Leuna are full, he added, while talks with Poland over replacing Russian oil supplies are advanced.

"We are making ourselves independent of Russia, and any decisions that are taken there," he said yesterday.

Under German law, the government can take over the running of an energy company on energy security grounds. It has already put into trusteeship a unit of Gazprom, the Kremlin-owned gas company.

Shell, the FTSE 100 oil and gas company, owns 37.5pc of the Schwedt refinery, which has typically received all its oil from Russia.

A spokesman for Shell told Reuters it was "unaffected" by the order and will "continue to comply with its contractual obligations".

The move comes as Germany considers taking a controlling stake in the Düsseldorf-based utility Uniper, which is its largest importer of Russian gas. The company, majority owned by Finnish utility Fortum, has been hit hard by cuts to Russian gas which have forced it to buy energy on the expensive spot market.

Winners and losers (pc)						
Property	0.79					
Information technology	0.44					
Tobaccos	0.34					
Electricity	0.19					
Insurance	0.05					
Mining	-0.80					
Telecommunications	-0.88					
Support services	-0.89					
Oil & Gas	-0.91					
Construction	-0.97					
AIM	-1.06					
Aerospace & defence	-1.27					
Electricals	-1.36					
Chemicals	-1.53					
Household goods	-1.54					
Travel & Leisure	-1.69					
Engineering & Industrial	-1.82					
Transport	-5.76					

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Government securities

52 week	High	Low	(£)	Stock	Price (E) +/-	Flat	Rdm Yield	Yield/Yield
116.18	110.31	Treas 5% 25	104.31	-0.11	4.79	3.17		
138.73	135.60	Treas 6% 28	115.91	-0.27	5.18	3.16		
135.67	108.70	Treas 4% 32	109.14	-0.05	3.89	3.15		
146.20	124.42	Treas 4% 36	109.01	-0.14	3.90	3.41		
162.01	115.13	Treas 4% 38	116.06	-0.12	4.09	3.45		

Index Linked Securities

52 week	High	Low	(£)	Stock	Price (E) +/-	Flat	Rdm Yield	Yield/Yield
390.60	362.32	Treas 2% IL 24	369.52	+0.01	0.68	0.00		
404.01	346.66	Treas 4% IL 30	351.05	+0.08	1.18	0.00		
325.39	252.97	Treas 2% IL 35	257.25	+0.44	0.78	0.00		

10-year Government Bonds

Yield%	Spread vs	Bonds	Spread vs	T-Bonds
France	2.23	+0.48	-1.23	
Germany	1.75	-	-1.71	
Japan	0.25	-1.50	-3.21	
Great Britain	3.13	+1.38	-0.33	
United States	3.46	+1.71	-	

The share prices, price-earnings ratios and dividend yields below are supplied by Interactive Data (Europe) Ltd. The yields are calculated using historic dividend payments divided by the closing share price multiplied by 100.

Aerospace & defence -1.27%

52 week	High	Low	(p)	Stock	Price (p) +/-	Yld	P/E
388.5	290	Babcock Intl	320.5	-1.1	—	9.9	
847.5	517	BAE Systems	764.0	-10	3.3	13.9	
396.5	233	QinetiQ	328.4	-2	2.2	20.9	
161.5	69	Rolls-Royce	75.4	-1	—	52.6	
176.5	112	Senior	126.5	-51	0.2	21.8	

Banks -0.41%

52 week	High	Low	(p)	Stock	Price (p) +/-	Yld	P/E
710.5	271	Aptitude Software	396.4	-14	1.4	44.0	
409.9	1800	Avea Group	3052.0	+27	1.2	146.9	
862.5	587	Sage Gp	718.5	+5	2.5	27.3	
310.5	209	Spirax	262.5	+4	2.1	20.4	

Healthcare -0.51%

503	2865	Mediclinic Int	492	3	0.6	24.0
1379	9941	Smith & Neph	1055.5	-5	3.1	20.2

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Aerospace & defence -1.27%

52 week	High	Low	(p)	Stock	Price (p) +/-	Yld	P/E
377.5	186	Ashmore	223.5	+21	7.6	16.7	
571.5	203	Bridgepoint Gp	266.5	+65	2.9	16.6	
160.5	759	Hargreaves L	854.5	+4	4.6	13.6	
885.5	646	IG Group	792.5	+5	5.6	6.7	

General financial -0.07%

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Index Linked Securities

52 week	High	Low	(£)	Stock	Price (E) +/-	Flat	Rdm Yield	Yield/Yield
390.60	362.32	Treas 2% IL 24	369.52	+0.01	0.68	0.00		
404.01	346.66	Treas 4% IL 30	351.05	+0.08	1.18	0.00		
325.39	252.97	Treas 2% IL 35	257.25	+0.44	0.78	0.00		

General financial -0.07%

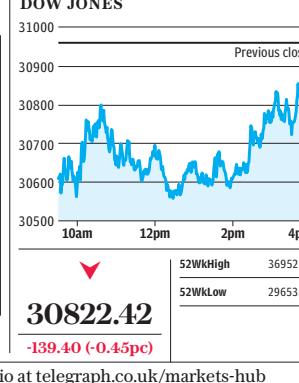
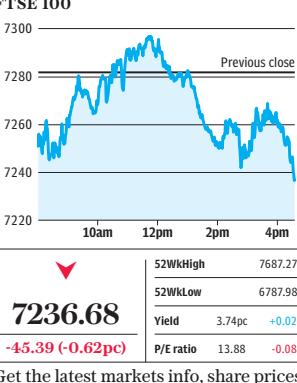
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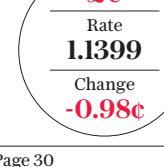
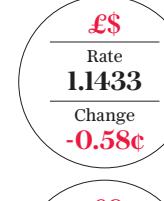
MARKETS



BIGGEST FALLER
IntContl Hotels
4670p
-229.00 (-4.67pc)

FTSE 250	18797.14
▼	-89.18 (-0.47pc)
FTSE All Share	3976.66
▼	-23.67 (-0.59pc)
FTSE All Share Yield	3.62
▲	+0.02
FTSE Eurotop 100	3153.34
▼	-50.76 (-1.58pc)
Nikkei 225	27567.65
▼	-308.26 (-1.11pc)
EURO STOXX 50	3500.41
▼	-41.38 (-1.17pc)
S&P 500	3873.33
▼	-28.02 (-0.72pc)
Nasdaq	11448.40
▼	-103.95 (-0.90pc)

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McLaren warns that a shortage of microchips has put the company at risk amid industry crisis

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Kwarteng mulls energy bill discount for businesses

Chancellor drawing up support package ahead of mini-Budget to stave off threat of bankruptcies

By Tom Rees

A BLANKET discount on business energy bills is being considered by Kwasi Kwarteng ahead of next week's mini-Budget as he draws up options to prevent a wave of bankruptcies.

Officials are examining a potential scheme in which companies will get a fixed reduction to the rate they currently pay per kilowatt hour on their bills – a different mechanism to the one used for households, where the maximum that energy companies can charge is capped instead.

A Whitehall source said a discount would be the simplest and most effective way of delivering support, but cautioned it is just one of a number of mechanisms being looked at by ministers.

Mr Kwarteng, the Chancellor, is preparing to set out a detailed plan to tackle the worst cost of living crisis since the 1970s in a fiscal statement next week, with help for households and companies expected to be accompanied by a raft of tax cuts.

Liz Truss, the Prime Minister, has promised that businesses will be given six months of support equivalent to the price guarantee that she has already announced for households. However, the Government is still working out how to deliver this.

Under the support scheme for households, consumers will pay a maximum 34p per kilowatt hour for electricity and 10.3p for gas, which amounts to average bills of £2,500 compared to £3,549 if the cap was not in place. This difference is covered by a taxpayer subsidy for the energy companies.

However, a similar package for businesses is far more difficult to draw up because they have individual arrangements with energy suppliers in which the price they pay can vary widely depending on their contract.

The proposal being considered would not cap these charges, but offers a discount of a set number of pence per kilowatt hour from what the company

presently pays. City analysts believe it would be easier for ministers to deliver and cost. Many businesses agree fixed-price contracts lasting for one year or more in October.

However, businesses have warned support may not arrive in time for next month's renewals. No10 has promised that payments will be backdated if the aid is delayed.

The six-month energy bills package for companies is expected to be unveiled next week, and longer support will be available to the worst-affected businesses.

One industry source said: "It's too complicated and that's the problem. Businesses have totally different sorts of contracts so they're having to work out how that can work. There's no legislative consumer cap in the same way."

Martin Young, analyst at Investec, said a discount on business bills would be the "most practicable".

He said: "The business market is more difficult to cost, not least because of the absence of a reference price that the tariff cap provides in the domestic market."

"For this reason, a pence per kilowatt hour discount for business consumption has its merits from a costing point of view, and likely easier to administer."

Slashing bills is deemed critical for the survival of many businesses, particularly those in energy intensive industries.

The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) has warned "hundreds or even thousands of small businesses will be disincentivised to keep going" unless clarity on the support is provided.

Martin McTague, chairman of the FSB, said: "Many small firms have October 1 as their start date for new contracts. If energy help comes into effect next month, or even November with backdating, at least businesses can plan around that."

The Prime Minister said that more focused support will be provided to vulnerable industries following the end of the initial six-month scheme. She highlighted hospitality companies, such as pubs and restaurants, as being in line for extra support while leaders in energy intensive sectors including steel are also hopeful of more aid.

The Department for Business did not respond to a request for comment.

Originally contracted to make a digital "configurator" that customers could

use to design their £300,000 Ghost, Topalsson sued Rolls-Royce and its parent company BMW after the deal was terminated

The German business has now escalated the £7.9m dispute from a civil case in the High Court to a criminal complaint in its home country, ahead of the London proceedings being heard before a judge next month.

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regarding the proceedings pending in England."

Timo Poser, finance director at Rolls-Royce, is among a group of six managers from the carmaker and its parent company who have been accused by Topalsson of breaking German criminal laws on copyright infringement.

The software company's complaint was filed in mid-August at the Munich public prosecutor's office, according to documents seen by *The Daily Telegraph*.

Rolls-Royce and BMW both deny the claims and describe them as "entirely

without merit", the British company said. A counterclaim has been filed.

British court filings show that Topalsson is pursuing Rolls-Royce for breach of contract over a computer programme used to display a digital version of the luxury Ghost sedan.

Rolls-Royce is said to have terminated Topalsson's contract over failures to deliver the configurator on time. The German business alleges that despite having delivered a working prototype, Rolls-Royce kicked it off the project before helping itself to the software.

Pound sinks to lowest level since 1985 as high street sales slump

By Eir Nolsøe

THE pound slumped below \$1.14 for the first time since 1985 after a fall in retail sales fuelled fears that the UK is hurtling toward a recession.

Sales fell 1.6pc in August compared with the previous month, Office for National Statistics (ONS) data revealed, the biggest decline this year and more than three times the drop forecast by economists. This sent the pound down

1pc against the dollar, falling below \$1.14 for the first time in 37 years.

It comes on the 30th anniversary of Black Wednesday, when a collapse in the pound forced Britain to withdraw from the Exchange Rate Mechanism.

Olivia Cross, economist at Capital Economics, said the figures suggested that the downward momentum is gathering speed, supporting the view that "the economy is already in recession". Economists polled by

Reuters had predicted a much gentler drop in retail volumes of 0.5pc. The volume of retail sales fell across all sectors for the first time since July last year, with large decreases in department stores where sales fell 2.7pc, while fuel declined by 1.8pc.

The ONS said "rising prices and cost of living" was affecting sales volumes.

On an annual basis, retail volumes fell 5.4pc in August, from 3.2pc in July – defying market predictions of a 3.7pc

drop. Consumer confidence in the economy hit record lows last month, figures that could cause the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee to consider a 0.5 percentage point increase in interest rates next week rather than the 0.25 percentage point rise expected by markets.

The Government's energy support package will provide some relief for consumers next month, but separate data published by the ONS yesterday showed that around half of adults who pay energy bills are already struggling to afford them. Four in five people also said in the past two weeks they were worried about rising costs, as inflation batters real incomes.

For the first time since December last year, the value spent on retail goods also fell month by month, dropping

1.6pc – the largest decrease since July 2021. High inflation means consumers are spending more to buy less. While volumes were down by 5.4pc in August year on year, this was mirrored by a rise of the same figure in value.

The highest increase in expenditure was on fuel, with households spending 21pc more than in August, while the outlay on groceries rose by 6pc, despite volumes being 4.5pc lower year on year.

Martin Beck, chief economic adviser to the EY Item Club, said he expected the downturn that retailers currently find themselves in to persist into 2023. He said: "Real household incomes are still on course for a significant fall over the next 12 months or so."

"And with unemployment likely to rise, it modestly by the standards of past downturns, and the geopolitical outlook also full of uncertainties, confidence is unlikely to see much of a revival".

However, Pantheon Macroeconomics said it expected August's retail sales figures to be "this year's nadir and a consumer-led recession to be narrowly avoided this winter".

It said this was owing to the Government's decision to freeze energy costs at 27pc above their current levels, which it expects to boost consumer confidence.

Minister blames French over RAF jet faults

By Gareth Corfield

A MINISTER has blamed the French for problems with RAF jet engines that could delay military pilot training for up to three years.

Engines in the Hawk T2 training aircraft have been pulled from service amid fears of in-flight failures.

New defence procurement minister

Alec Shelbrooke said in a parliamentary statement: "A fault has been identified with the Rolls-Royce/Safran Adour 951 engine, which powers the Hawk T.

Mk.2. As a precaution, a number of

engines were temporarily removed from service while the Ministry of Defence supports a Rolls-Royce/Safran investigation into the root cause and rectification."

Problems with the Hawks' Adour

engine were traced by engineers to low pressure compressor fan made by the French aero-engine manufacturer Safran, a component specifically referred to by Mr Shelbrooke.

Rolls-Royce and Safran said in a joint statement: "We cannot comment on operational availability, however, we continue to work closely with our military customer to ensure we maximise the RAF's training capability."

Neither company would say how many engines were affected, or explain why the French-made component failed.

It comes as a former head of security for Uber, Joe Sullivan, stands trial in the US, accused of paying hush money to cover up a previous hacking incident

By Gareth Corfield

UBER has been hacked in a cyber security attack that threatens to compromise the personal and financial details of the ride-hailing app's 118m users.

Screenshots posted to social media showed the hacker, who claimed to be aged 18, appeared to have gained admin access to major web services used by the taxi and food delivery business.

It comes as a former head of security for Uber, Joe Sullivan, stands trial in the US, accused of paying hush money to cover up a previous hacking incident.

Marten Mickos, chief executive of HackerOne, said on Twitter that he had disabled the affected account.

Uber's share price dropped

5pc in pre-market trading yesterday.

In a statement, Uber said: "We are currently responding to a cyber security incident. We are in touch with law enforcement and will post additional updates here as they become available."

Company representatives did not respond to *The Daily Telegraph's* questions about the hack and it is unclear how much customer data has been affected.

There was no information last night as to whether credit card details had been illicitly accessed or leaked.

Uber cyber attack threatens 118m app users



Alec Shelbrooke, the defence procurement minister, has highlighted problems with a key French jet component

By Gareth Corfield

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Uber's share price dropped

Business comment

Ben Marlow



Germany wakes up to threat of Kremlin

across Central and Eastern Europe. They have been telling us for years that Putin would not stop."

On energy at least, it is clear that Olaf Scholz, the German chancellor, is more alive to the danger that Russia poses. The nationalisation of three refineries owned by Russian oil company Rosneft is a major escalation of hostilities, but it had been coming ever since a key energy law was amended last month allowing the government to place critical infrastructure under temporary trusteeship – and in extreme circumstances, full expropriation.

It means that the country's federal energy regulator, Bundesnetzagentur, will take ownership of Rosneft's stakes in three German refineries – PCK in Schwedt, MiRo in Karlsruhe and Bayernoil in Vohburg – accounting for about 12pc of Germany's total oil processing capacity.

But if Putin cuts off gas supplies to Europe altogether, there are grave doubts about the German economy's ability to withstand the winter, even with compulsory rationing. Goldman Sachs says Germany wouldn't "have many options" and as a result could suffer a staggering 65pc collapse in industrial output if Putin turns off the taps completely, which would plunge the country into a deep recession.

However there remain grave doubts within the EU – and particularly in Central and Eastern Europe – as to whether even now Scholz and his fragile coalition partners truly recognise the threat from Russia. And if they do, whether they possess the will to tackle the Kremlin head on.

Indeed, the suspicion has long been that Germany's commitment to supporting Ukraine has been half-hearted. There is growing concern among more hardline EU countries, such as Poland, that if the gas crunch intensifies over the winter months, Berlin's backing will wane further.

And while Von der Leyen's mea culpa might have been expected to galvanise the EU, it has instead merely further exposed the divisions between states in the east, who generally advocate a tougher stance including more military aid, and those in the west, including Germany, who fixate on the political fallout of a prolonged conflict.

There was hope that the territorial gains by Ukraine in recent days would encourage a bolder stance. Yet Germany's refusal to honour a consignment of weaponry, including Leopard tanks and Marder armoured personnel carriers, is perhaps a better indication of what to expect.

German officials have talked about the danger of escalation and while an aversion to confrontation from a country that started two world wars is understandable, as Ukrainian defence ministry official Yuriy Sak was quoted as saying, the real question is: "An escalation to what? It's bad enough as it is." Dmytro Kuleba, Ukraine's foreign minister, responded: "What is Berlin afraid of that Kyiv is not?"

Now there's a question that could have been asked at any time over the past 20 years.

Soviet Union. It is not usual in a Western democracy. But Berlin's actions are a measure of how far the world has come since the Kremlin's tanks bulldozed their way across the Ukrainian border.

At first, Western European diplomats continued to argue about whether Putin represented a threat to peace and stability at all, despite the repeated warnings of those in closer proximity to Russia's border.

As European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen confessed in her State of the Union speech: "We should have listened to those who know Putin... In Poland, in the Baltics and

earthquake Putin's aggression has triggered. However, asset appropriation is usually the preserve of rogue states such as North Korea, Iran, Venezuela, and indeed Russia, both before and after the fall of the

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McLaren at risk from microchips shortage

Global supply chaos took carmaker close to collapse before investors pumped in £125m, accounts show

By Oliver Gill

MCLAREN was put at risk of collapse by a global shortage of microchips that left the British supercar manufacturer struggling to deliver orders, new accounts show.

A severe lack of chips had created a "material uncertainty" over the company's future, auditors said in the accounts, which were published this week but signed off before McLaren secured a £125m injection from investors earlier this year.

The warning is a fresh demonstration of the crisis that has gripped the car industry since Covid sparked a shutdown in production, leaving companies from Volkswagen to Tesla unable to cope with surging demands when society opened back up.

It also raises further questions over the plight of McLaren, a British engi-

neering powerhouse that has struggled during the rolling economic chaos gripping Britain. McLaren's racing business, founded in 1963, is no longer officially part of the group after a consortium of private investors took control in December 2020.

In April 2021, the company sold its sprawling global headquarters on the outskirts of Woking, Surrey, to investment firm GNL in a deal that raised £170m – but allowed them to lease the site back for the next 20 years.

More money was pumped into McLaren by its backers in August 2021 when it tapped San Francisco hedge fund Ares and Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund – the owner of Newcastle United – for £400m. Existing shareholders poured in an additional £150m. Alongside this, it issued a £620m (£543m) corporate bond and secured a £95m bank loan.

The third leg of the August restructuring included the sale of McLaren's Applied technology arm to Greybull Capital, a distressed investment specialist best known for backing doomed airline Monarch and British Steel. Greybull did not pay a penny for the equity



McLaren sold its HQ on the outskirts of Woking to investment firm GNL in a deal that raised £170m last year. It has leased the site back for 20 years

of the business, accounts disclose. That auditors still felt the need to red flag the accounts despite the amount of capital raised over the course of late 2020 and 2021 is likely to spark questions over whether the July injection is enough to put McLaren on a long-term footing.

In response, a spokesman for McLaren repeated the company's statement in July: "The transaction will improve the group's liquidity position, supporting its growth plans as a global luxury supercar and elite motorsport business, with automotive as McLaren's core profit driver."

We're going to get a lot more chip capacity in the second half – we're nearing the end of the crunch'

The lack of computer chips is hardly new news for carmakers. Shortages can be traced back to the start of the pandemic, which led to an unprecedented demand for work-from-home tech at the same time as carmakers closed their factories and stopped buying.

Carmakers – not just luxury ones like McLaren – found themselves in competition with tech hardware firms to secure supplies from Asia. The delta variant hit production in South Asia in particular, according to analysts from JP Morgan, exacerbating the issue.

The shift towards electric vehicles, with countries such as the UK banning the sale of new petrol cars from 2030, put yet more pressure on already stretched supply chains.

For McLaren, the chip crisis has led to delays in the roll out of its Artura, the carmaker's £185,500 production hybrid sports car. Reports have suggested that McLaren has been prioritising chip supply for its higher margin models.

Meanwhile, sales of other models have also been affected – enough for auditor PwC to raise the issue in its opinion on the company's accounts.

The auditor said: "Due to risks to

future performance such as the global shortage of semiconductors and delays in launching the new Artura model, the group and company may require additional funding in order to be able to meet their liabilities as they fall due over the next 12 months."

McLaren's board of directors, meanwhile, said it had recently completed "an annual budget and long-term plan".

It added: "The board remains positive on the future direction and long-term product plan of the business, likewise recognises risks to performance such as the global shortage of semiconductors alongside delays launching the Artura."

Some analysts believe that the worst of the chip shortage is now over.

Sandeep Deshpande, of JP Morgan, said: "We're going to get a lot more semiconductor capacity in the second half of 2022 – we're nearing the end of the supply crunch. However, capacity still needs to be qualified for use in the automotive industry. Can the right matching occur between available supply and correct qualification?"

VW is not nearly as optimistic, estimating that chip supply is unlikely to meet car industry demand until 2024.

Flights cancelled as French air traffic controllers stage walkout

By Oliver Gill

THOUSANDS of British holidaymakers risk being stranded as around 1,000 flights are cancelled as a result of a strike by French air traffic controllers.

Ryanair is among the worst affected, cancelling 420 services yesterday, disrupting travel plans for 80,000 passengers. EasyJet has cut 76 flights, British Airways has cancelled 22, while Air France said it will operate just 45pc of its short-haul flights.

Ryanair criticised the French walkout as "inexcusable" and urged officials in Brussels to finally take action against the perennial industrial action.

With air traffic control operations in the heart of Europe, French unions are able to create maximum disruption across the continent. British travellers are particularly affected as airlines struggle to navigate around the country or through narrow channels in French airspace that remain open.

Officials said about 21,000 planes

were due to operate across European airspace yesterday – a third of normal volumes.

The disruption to British travellers – some of whom may be racing to pay their respect to Queen Elizabeth II as she lies in state in London – follows months of turmoil at airports as bosses

420

Services axed by Ryanair. Meanwhile EasyJet cut 76 flights and British Airways has cancelled 22

grapple with chronic staffing shortages.

More strikes are planned by French union the Syndicat National des Contrôleurs du Trafic Aérien for Sept 28-30.

The union says that soaring inflation means that its members are facing a real terms pay cut.

It added earlier this week: "Between

2029 and 2035, one third of the [air traffic control] workforce is retiring. It is imperative that we anticipate and plan recruitment.

"If not, the consequences will be inevitable in terms of the public service, working conditions and flexibility."

Neal McMahon, Ryanair operations director, said: "It is inexplicable that thousands of European citizens/visitors will have their travel plans unfairly disrupted ... by yet another French ATC strike. Ryanair is once again calling for immediate EU action to prevent these ATC strikes disrupting the travel plans of thousands of European citizens/visitors."

"It is inexcusable that passengers who are not even flying to/from France are disrupted because they overfly French airspace at a time when French laws protect French domestic flights.

"It is time that the EU steps in and protects overflights so that European passengers are not repeatedly held to ransom by a tiny French ATC union."

Train drivers seek to derail Tory conference with strike

By Oliver Gill

TRAIN drivers are to cause a wave of disruption at the Conservative Party conference with a two-day strike next month.

Members of the Aslef union will walk out on Oct 1, the day before the start of conference, when thousands of people will be travelling to Birmingham.

They will also strike on Oct 5, the final day, when many people will be going home after Liz Truss gives her closing speech.

Drivers had planned to strike on Sept 15, but called off the industrial action as a mark of respect following the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

Although Aslef has not confirmed the October strike dates, David Horne, managing director of the state-owned LNER line, said that he had been notified of the walkout.

He said: "This morning we have been notified by the Aslef trade union of further days of strike action on Saturday 1 October and Wednesday 5 October. We have suspended ticket bookings for these dates – we will review our plans and confirm which LNER lines will run on these days." Ms Truss has

pledged to get tough on trade unions by restricting campaigns on vital infrastructure such as the railways.

The Trade Unions' Congress has called the Prime Minister's proposals an "attack on fundamental British liberty".

Aslef's row with train companies, which are bankrolled by the Government, centres on demands for a pay

A rail strike will take place on the day Liz Truss is due to give her closing speech at the Tory party conference

increase in line with inflation.

The Rail, Maritime, and Transport workers union, which represents guards, station staff, signal workers and engineers, is also locked in a dispute with industry leaders.

It opposes sweeping reforms to working practices as well as demanding pay rises in line with inflation. It also called off strike action scheduled for Sept 15 and Sept 17. Unions must give two weeks' notice of strikes.

MySale online shop rejects takeover bid by Ashley's Frasers

By Laura Omita

ONLINE retailer MySale has rebuffed a £14m takeover bid from Mike Ashley's Frasers Group, saying it undervalued its business. The Australian company urged shareholders not to approve a 2p per share offer, while its own chairman Carl Jackson stepped down as he backed Frasers' bid.

MySale said the terms were not "fair and reasonable", noting that price was the minimum the owner of Sports Direct and House of Fraser could have offered under City rules.

Frasers snapped up a 29pc stake in the struggling retailer in June, sending shares up 20pc, and in August it said it was seeking to buy the rest of the stock, valuing MySale at £13.6m.

The marketplace also counts Sir Philip Green and Boohoo's co-founder Mahmud Kamani as shareholders.

MySale argued that Frasers' bid was a discount of 26pc to its closing price the day before the sportswear retailer revealed its bid. MySale ended the week valued at £23.8m.

Frasers has been on an acquisition spree in recent years, buying brands such as Jack Wills and Missguided.

The Telegraph

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- Tue 4 Icy Strait Point, Alaska (arrive early pm - depart late pm)
- Wed 5 *Cruising by Hubbard Glacier*
- Thu 6 Juneau, Alaska
- Fri 7 Ketchikan, Alaska (arrive early pm)
- Sat 8 *Cruising the Inside Passage*
- Sun 9 Vancouver, Canada
Disembark and transfer to a hotel to begin your six night **Rocky Mountaineer & Calgary Stampede tour[×]**
- Mon 10 Vancouver - Kamloops, Canada **★Rocky Mountaineer★**
Embark *Rocky Mountaineer* and venture to Kamloops, in the heart of British Columbia's interior. On today's journey, highlights include the rushing waters of Hell's Gate in the Fraser Canyon and the steep slopes and rock sheds along the Thompson River. Your day concludes travelling along the shores of Kamloops Lake into Kamloops. Overnight in Kamloops (B, L)



Tue 11 Kamloops - Banff, Canada

★Rocky Mountaineer★

Your journey continues eastwards to the mighty Canadian Rockies and the province of Alberta. Today's highlights include Craigellachie, Rogers Pass, Kicking Horse Canyon, the Spiral Tunnels and, of course, the glaciers and snow-capped peaks of the Canadian Rockies. Your rail journey ends this evening in the resort town of Banff. Overnight in Banff (B, L)

Wed 12 Banff - Calgary, Canada

Begin the morning with a sightseeing tour of Banff, including a ride on the Banff Gondola. Three night stay in Calgary

Thu 13 - Calgary, Canada **★Calgary Stampede Rodeo - Two-day Thrill Pass included★**

Over the next two days you can look forward to the 'Greatest Show on Earth' the Calgary Stampede. Highlights will include the afternoon Rodeo where participants compete in events like barrel racing, saddle bronc, calf roping, steer wrestling and bull riding. Enjoy the competition of the Chuckwagon Races followed by the energy of the grandstand Show and world class fireworks display! Enjoy admission to the legendary Half-Million Dollar Rodeo. You will see top professionals in the sport take on the untamed fury of the west's wildest horses in the Saddle Bronc and Bareback Riding events and the heart stopping action of the rodeo's most dangerous event - Bull Riding

Sat 15 Calgary, Canada

Transfer to the airport for your overnight flight to London[>]

Sun 16 Arrive in London

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Weather & Crosswords

Forecast

General situation

With high pressure off the southern coast of Ireland, largely dry weather will continue for much of the United Kingdom today and tonight. A few showers will occur over northern Scotland.

◆ London, Cent S England, Channel Is, SW England, E England, SE England, M, Midlands:

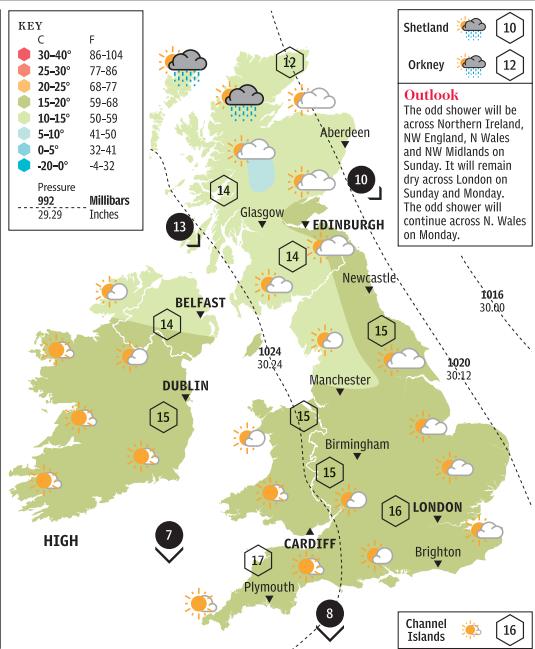
Generally dry today with sunny spells in the west to sunny intervals in the east. A moderate northwesterly wind. Max 57-63F (14-17C). Dry tonight. Min 41-48F (5-9C).

◆ NW England, Lake Dist, IoM, Cent N England, NE England:

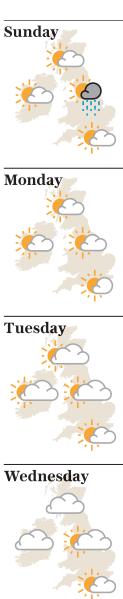
Mainly dry today with sunny periods. A moderate NW wind. Max 45-61F (7-16C). The odd shower in the NW tonight. Min 39-55F (4-13C).

◆ Wales:

Mainly dry today and tonight. A moderate northwesterly wind.



Four day forecast



European readings

Last night's report for 24 hours to 6pm

	Max °C	Min °C	Daytime weather
Akrotiri	30	21	sunny
Alicante	29	20	sunny
Funchal	26	22	p/cidy
Gdansk	14	9	storms
Geneva	20	13	p/cidy
Gibraltar	25	18	sunny
Bari	32	21	storms
Belgrade	23	17	storms
Benidorm	29	21	sunny
Bergen	13	9	windy
Berlin	18	9	windy
Biarritz	23	17	p/cidy
Bodrum	31	20	sunny
Bordeaux	24	14	p/cidy
Brest	18	11	p/cidy
Brussels	14	9	showers
Bucharest	30	21	p/cidy
Madrid	29	14	sunny
Majorca	30	19	storms
Malaga	30	22	p/cidy
Malta	30	25	windy
Marseille	27	18	windy
Copenhagen	16	11	showers
Corfu	30	20	p/cidy
Cork	16	8	p/cidy
Corsica	29	19	p/cidy
Crete	28	18	sunny
Dublin	16	6	p/cidy
Naples	28	20	storms
Nice	28	21	sunny
Dubrovnik	25	19	storms
Faro	24	18	p/cidy
Florence	29	20	p/cidy
Oporto	23	16	p/cidy

	Max °C	Min °C	Daytime weather
Oslo	16	10	p/cidy
Palermo	32	25	sunny
Paris	19	12	cloudy
Perpignan	28	20	windy
Prague	16	11	p/cidy
Reykjavik	11	2	showers
Rhodes	30	23	sunny
Riga	17	9	rain
Rome	28	22	sunny
Saint Malo	18	15	p/cidy
Salzburg	17	12	rain
Santander	23	17	p/cidy
Santiago/Comp.	22	16	p/cidy
Sofia	24	16	p/cidy
St. Petersburg	14	9	rain
Stockholm	13	8	showers
Strasbourg	18	13	showers
Tenerife	29	20	windy
Tirana	34	19	p/cidy
Toulouse	27	15	p/cidy
Valencia	29	20	p/cidy
Venice	26	18	storms
Vienna	18	12	showers
Vigo	26	16	p/cidy
Vilnius	15	8	windy
Warsaw	16	11	p/cidy
Zagreb	18	13	rain
Zurich	17	13	p/cidy

Weather Watch



The queue to view the King's coffin in 1952

A new season is being ushered in with a new reign

By Joe Shute

THE British weather often has a curious habit of reflecting the national mood. Ever since the Queen's death and subsequent period of national mourning, there has been a definite chill in the air.

At times in recent days angry clouds have blackened the skies. Mourners queuing up outside royal residences across the country, and at Westminster Hall, have been subjected to some significant dumps of rain.

That they have endured it all without complaint is, of course, its own quiet tribute to the stoicism of the woman they are waiting to honour. In headscarf and Barbour, the Queen could happily withstand whatever weather her kingdom threw her way.

Following the death of her father, King George VI, in February 1952, the weather was similarly tumultuous. Newspapers reported that his coffin was transported to a "dreary London, cold and damp under low clouds".

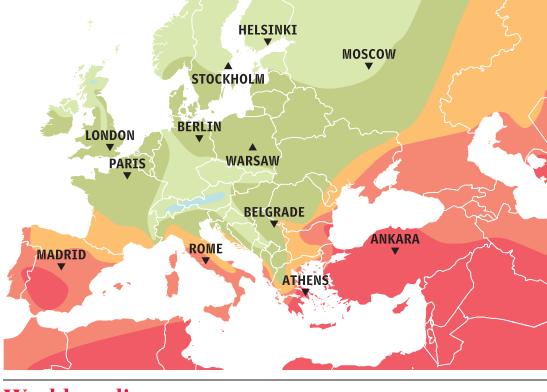
As with this week, hundreds of thousands queued along the Thames back then to pay tribute to the King's body as it lay in state at Westminster Hall in biting cold temperatures.

One report of the time noted the rain spoiled the sombre outfits of many mourners, with people forced to pull on brightly-coloured headscarves and waterproofs over their dark clothes.

Video footage from the day of the funeral itself shows mourners swaddled in thick coats as they lined the streets. Despite the cold, so many still turned out that people had to attach mirrors on to sticks in an attempt to catch sight of the funeral procession through the crowds.

The weather on Monday for the Queen's funeral looks fortunately benign. According to the Met Office, high pressure will dominate over this weekend and into Monday.

There may be the odd outbreak of rain in the West, but things should remain fine and dry, if decidedly autumnal. For change is unmistakably in the air and even as we lament all that has passed, a new season is being ushered in with a new reign.



World readings

	Max °C	Min °C	Daytime weather
Accra	28	24	cloudy
Addis Ababa	21	10	cloudy
Adelaide	15	10	showers
Alexandria	31	20	p/cidy
Algiers	28	19	p/cidy
Amman	32	18	sunny
Ankara	32	11	sunny
Antwerp	27	23	sunny
Ascension Is.	27	23	sunny
Auckland	14	10	windy
Bahrain	38	26	sunny
Bangkok	33	26	storms
Beirut	30	24	sunny
Bermuda	29	25	showers
Bogota	16	10	cloudy
Brigentown	31	25	showers
Brisbane	22	16	showers
Buenos Aires	20	14	p/cidy
Cairo	31	20	haze
Canberra	15	6	p/cidy
Cape Town	21	12	p/cidy
Casablanca	27	18	p/cidy
Chicago	27	17	p/cidy
Christchurch	9	1	cloudy
Colombo	31	25	showers
Dakar	27	13	rainy
Damascus	35	14	sunny
Dar es Salaam	29	21	p/cidy
Dhaka	31	26	storms
Dubai	38	30	sunny
Falkland Is.	9	5	windy
Harare	26	10	sunny
Havana	31	24	storms
Hong Kong	34	28	sunny
Kabul	27	16	rainy
Karachi	31	26	windy
Kolkata	33	26	storms
Kuala Lumpur	33	25	showers
La Paz	13	0	p/cidy
Lahore	35	24	rainy
Lima	18	14	p/cidy
Los Angeles	23	18	sunny
Manila	30	26	cloudy
Marrakesh	30	17	p/cidy
Melbourne	16	9	showers
Miami	32	24	storms
Montego Bay	31	27	storms
Mumbai	28	25	rain
Nairobi	25	14	p/cidy

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Prize Crossword 30,095

telegraph.co.uk/puzzles

Across

- 2 On good terms with class, head regularly knowing enough (4-8)
- 8 Any number leaving, eat a large quantity (4)
- 9 Officer of business cross with lover (8)
- 10 Trio belt out part of opera (8)
- 11 Amateur excluded from sketch (6)
- 12 Worn down, having nothing for new beginning (6)
- 13 Drip returning, normal to remove front of optics? (6)
- 16 American generation's normal practice (5)
- 17 Forty winks Felix has? (6)
- 18 Bursars got disorganised in the city (10)
- 21 Leave river holding record (6)
- 23 Most wishy-washy from pub included by the way (8)
- 24 Simple type dressed in iron with gold torch (8)
- 25 Case of free tuition (4)
- 26 Infected? No admittance unfortunately (12)

Solution No 30,094



Three prizes of a boxed Telegraph fountain pen will be awarded to the senders of the first three correct solutions opened from all those received. Five crossword companion notebooks will be awarded as consolation prizes.

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Yesterdays Quick Solution

Across: 1 Holly, 4 Daze, (Holidays) 7 Boom, 8 Kohlrabi, 9 Bluntness, 10 Jam, 12 Smudge, 14 Enough, 16 Lax, 18 Professor, 21 Decisive, 22 Arid, 23 Item, 24 Kitty.

Down: 1 Hoodlum, 2 Lemonade, 3 Yukon, 4 Dark, 5 Zebra, 6 Chaste, 11 Constant, 13 Earwig, 15 Glory, 17 Alert, 19 Freak, 20 Film.

Down

- 1 After most of month I take alternative lower rank (6)
- 2 At which point our nephew cracked up (9)
- 3 Protected, like a building like one in Pisa (6)
- 4 Desperately recruit next man to bring in old form of assessment? (6,3,6)
- 5 Deceive having hand cover that's a bloomer! (8)
- 6 Loud wordy exchanges (5)
- 7 Astonishingly, April due to give back number (8)
- 14 Second rug removed and purloined (9)
- 15 Final defeat that's the end of the line? (8)
- 16 Not going with the current trend (8)
- 19 Never mind runner on top of mine (4,2)
- 20 Part of affair is questionably indecent (6)
- 22 Own up now Frenchman has sex appeal (5)

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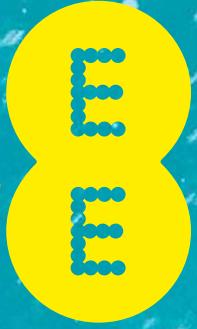
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SPORTS NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR**The Daily Telegraph****Jamie Carragher column**Boehly has a lot to learn P10**Ilkay Gundogan exclusive**My Aguero moment P8-9**Sport**

By Brian Moore



I thought about starting this piece with a poem, to honour its subject, but immediately thought – what is the point in trying to out-word a wordsmith? For that is what he was, Edward Thomas Butler, taken from us far too soon at the age of 65.

Though I worked alongside Eddie as a sports journalist and rugby co-commentator for over 20 years, I could not have imagined how hard his death would hit me. I am still in a state of profound shock, trying to absorb the fact that I will never hear his voice or see his broad smile again. Still trying to fathom why, given the nature of our relationship, his passing has had such a primordial effect on me.

Tributes have poured in, from all sources, giving Eddie what he deserves, recognition as one of the iconic voices on British sport, particularly rugby. But, at the sake of upsetting government ministers, and Eddie himself, by starting a sentence with a conjunction – it wasn't always so.

At the beginning of his commentary career, he worked alongside the masterful Bill McLaren as his co-commentator. I doubt he planned to be Bill's replacement, for had this been he might have been overwhelmed by the Herculean task.

The BBC did not even announce Eddie as a straight replacement for Bill, they just left it in the air, hoping that at some point viewers would realise this was so. I clearly remember the sort of comments that were made in rugby circles and then on social media about Eddie. Some probably came from the same people who rushed to make adulatory posts after hearing of his

Continued on Page 4

'I hope he knew how much I loved him'

Brian Moore tribute to voice of rugby Eddie Butler

PHIL REED/SHUTTERSTOCK

Worcester owner threatens to sack staff hours after they offered to work for free

By Charlie Morgan and Ben Coles

Worcester Warriors co-owner Colin Goldring threatened to sack staff who shared a statement criticising the club's hierarchy, hours after they pledged to work for free in order to stage this weekend's matches at Sixways Stadium.

The escalation in tensions came at the end of a dramatic day at the club during which a number of key staff said they would forgo payment to

ensure the matches – against Harlequins women in the Allianz Cup today, and Exeter men in the Gallagher Premiership tomorrow – could go ahead.

Telegraph Sport understands staff are likely to take a harder stance next week if last month's wages remain unpaid.

The decision from some to waive payment had enabled the club to earn a General Safety Certificate from Worcestershire County Council, a condition to the matches going

ahead, before the Rugby Football Union's noon deadline yesterday. Yet some were then threatened with gross misconduct after sharing a social media post outlining anger at co-owners Goldring and Jason Whittingham, citing "continual broken promises and lack of communication from those above". The statement was shared on the official Worcester Twitter account before being deleted.

Day of drama: Pages 2-3

Prince of Wales' message inspires Villa to victory

By John Aizlewood

Aston Villa last night beat Southampton after being inspired by a private message of support from the Prince of Wales.

Steven Gerrard's side recorded a crucial win before their under-fire manager revealed that the future monarch, a Villa supporter, had been in touch even as he mourned Queen Elizabeth II.

Gerrard said: "He messaged in the

week, to the club, and that shows everything about what he thinks of this club. For us to reward that with a result and clean sheet, I'm sure he will be proud.

"It was along the lines of 'would love to be there'. He is consistently in touch. He is very supportive of the boys individually, he loves them. It's really impressive, his knowledge, and how much he is in to it.

"It certainly took me aback."

Match report: Pages 6-7

No wages, no emails, no Wi-Fi

Bitterness at owner's threat to sack Worcester staff members

Sixways weekend matches are given the go-ahead by council

By Charlie Morgan
SENIOR RUGBY WRITER

Escalating tensions between directors and staff have soured what should have been a day of respite and celebration for Worcester Warriors after unpaid employees had "worked miracles" to ensure that the club would be able to host matches today and tomorrow.

It is understood that last night, after the Rugby Football Union had handed a lunchtime reprieve to

Worcester, Colin Goldring, one of the co-owners, threatened to sack individuals for circulating a statement voicing grievances of staff.

Directors are believed to have accessed the official Worcester Twitter account and deleted the post, which mentioned "continual broken promises and lack of communication from those above".

Neither Goldring, thought to have failed the English Football League owners' and directors' test despite becoming a director at Morecambe Football Club, nor Jason Whittingham, Warriors' other co-owner, have been seen at Sixways this month. Instead, they have apparently chosen to work from their homes in Essex.

"We have had a lovely letter from

the RFU thanking staff for their efforts," said a club source. "But all we have heard from the owners is threats with menaces at a time when most staff are being destroyed mentally and financially."

This weekend's fixtures at Sixways were ultimately saved by a visit yesterday from Worcestershire County Council, during which it was decided that the venue's safety certificate would be validated to satisfy the RFU's noon deadline.

Up-to-date copies of key documents were needed, including fire risk assessments, alarm systems, electrical details for emergency lighting, on-site traffic control and medical arrangements for spectators and players. Verbal assurances of other arrangements, such as the

Eye of the storm:
Worcester Warriors' director of rugby Steve Diamond will see his side in action tomorrow

attendance of a doctor, were given as well.

The hours prior to that, either side of midnight, had been crucial. A group of around six or seven heads of department had coordinated an effort that lasted late into Thursday night and began again early yesterday morning.

Employees, some of whom are yet to receive any wages for August, and others given just 65 per cent of their salaries, were said to have conjured

"miracles" in order for both University of Worcester Women's match against Harlequins today and Warriors' encounter with Exeter Chiefs tomorrow.

With no additional funding forthcoming from Goldring and Whittingham, additional costs have been met with cash reserves. A good portion of those working at the matches will be volunteers and capacities have been capped.

A maximum of 1,999 spectators will be allowed for today's Allianz Cup tie with 4,999 permitted tomorrow as the Premiership returns to the West Midlands.

Whereas Steve Diamond has been the face and the public-facing, no-nonsense voice of Worcester's survival mission, there have many



I felt overawed in final at Twickenham, says Earl

Occasion got to the Saracens flanker in defeat by Leicester
McCall's side have 'never been more motivated' for a season

By Charlie Morgan

Ben Earl has not held back in his criticism of Saracens' performances last season and admitted he did not rise to the occasion during the Premiership final at Twickenham.

By their own standards, Saracens came up short in the last campaign, losing to Toulon in the European Challenge Cup semi-final in May

and then to Leicester in the domestic decider a month later.

Earl admitted that he felt "slightly overawed" in each of those contests despite his immense form over the rest of the campaign. He also pulled no punches in his assessment of Saracens as a whole.

"I just think we had games where

we'd pick and choose what kind of Saracens were going to turn up," Earl said. "Meaning no disrespect to the opposition, there were games in that season that we had under control and with a more aggressive mindset, which we've shown in previous years, we'd have got over the line and turned them into victories."

Perhaps most jarring among the Saracens slip-ups was their collapse to London Irish in November. They were leading 34-8 at the StoneX Stadium. Adam Coleman had been sent off midway through the first half, too. And yet the Exiles stormed back to register a 34-34 draw.

Starting with today and a tasty rendezvous with Harlequins, Sar-

cens will be keen to re-establish a ruthless edge. Earl, the Premiership player of the year for 2021-22, wants to be integral to that process.

Mark McCall, the Saracens director of rugby, has described Earl's pre-season as "phenomenal", praising the back-rower for putting in terrific graft. After speaking to Eddie Jones, Earl has targeted areas for improvement and plotted a potential path back to England honours. Clearly, Saracens will reap the benefits. Earl said "the disappointment of not being involved in the summer" on the tour to Australia acted as a spur for his pre-season exploits.

With a World Cup around the corner, the desire to add to his 13

but games are on

unsung heroes. A recently-created WhatsApp group, with no directors invited, has helped to keep morale high. Staff had weighed up whether to throw in the towel, but knew that failing to fulfil these matches could spell the end of Worcester Warriors.

Something of a secret weapon amid these struggles has been team manager Luke Broadley, who joined the club as team manager from the Welsh Rugby Union just over a year ago. He has been a driving force behind the “together” mantra and coordinated social media posts, which began last month with a symbolic shot of the players in a circle on the field. Snaps of Ted Hill and Duhan van der Merwe reading fan messages, on the day the latter was linked with a move to Racing 92,

were a subtler intervention. Sept 2, which saw a flurry of personalised videos, and the stark revelation that academy scrum-half Ollie Wynn had been made homeless, was another milestone and a PR masterstroke.

Employees of the cash-strapped club have had to adapt to a workplace without a functioning email system or Wi-Fi network. Once it had been guaranteed that Worcester would be facing Exeter Chiefs, the Warriors line-up had to be announced. Luke Summers, the Worcester media executive, stepped up. After permission from graphic designers, he made light of the scenario by producing a deliberately rough-and-ready image for use on Twitter and Instagram.

Curtis Langdon was borrowed for

a nod to the supply problems that Worcester have had with their kit. Langdon's head shot from last season, when the hooker was still under Diamond at Sale Sharks, was cut out and transposed onto the body of an anonymous Warriors player in last season's strip. After all, players will continue to wear that for matches, without names on the backs, until manufacturers O'Neills are paid for the 2022-23 uniforms. A spray-paint effect was picked for the #COYW (“come on you Warriors”) strapline. The upshot was a faux-juvenile work of art. It was suggested that Photoshop was not used. It was, but Worcester's company account is set to expire tomorrow. If the team graphic was its last assignment, what a coup de grâce.



Unity: Worcester Warriors (left) have the go-ahead to play tomorrow; Steve Diamond posts (above) a ‘together’ rallying cry; the makeshift team announcement (below) yesterday



caps, all of which arrived from the bench between 2020 and 2021, burns bright. “Obviously, it’s a big year for any young English player,” he said. “There’s no hiding from the fact that I’d love to be involved again internationally.”

And so to his memories of the defeats by Toulon and, especially, Leicester. Earl has watched the Premiership final only once. Frankly, it would be a shock if anyone not asso-

ciated with Leicester had braved two reruns. Two lapses have stuck in the mind: a tapped penalty leading to Jasper Wiese’s try in the 35th minute and Saracens’ failure to score on the stroke of half-time because of fatigue.

“I wasn’t completely disappointed with the way I played,” Earl said. “But definitely [there could have been] more from me and I was probably slightly overawed by the occasion – both that game and the Toulon away game.”

“Those two games, for me, were learning curves in terms of how to play well on a big occasion. I’ve learnt a lot from that; spoken to a few people about it.”

‘It’s a big year. There is no hiding from the fact that I would love to be involved again internationally’

Harlequins frustrated as Smith return is blocked

By Charlie Morgan

Harlequins have been left frustrated ahead of today’s London derby after being barred from picking Marcus Smith, even though Saracens will welcome back five England players.

Owen Farrell, Maro Itoje and Billy Vunipola all start for Mark McCall’s side, with Mako Vunipola and Jamie George named among the replacements. Each toured Australia in July and featured in a hard-fought Test series alongside Smith.

However, the 23-year-old fly-half has not been granted special dispensation to appear at the Twickenham Stoop, risking further debate over the integrity of rest protocols for elite players.

Harlequins hinted at their displeasure in an official press release that announced their line-up, stating: “Unfortunately for the club, fly-half Marcus Smith was not given clearance to play this week and will continue his mandated rest period following England’s summer internationals.”

According to guidelines, players who toured with England over the summer are entitled to a 10-week off-season. Anyone looking to make an earlier return has to have it signed off by the Professional Game Board and Eddie Jones, the England head coach.

Each individual is treated on a case-by-case basis. Ellis Genge

returned for Bristol against Bath last Saturday after an eight-week lay-off, for instance.

While flexible, the process has led to confusion. This weekend marks nine weeks since England beat Australia in Sydney to win the series and it is not yet clear at which stage Harlequins’ application for Smith to play was refused.

Smith appeared in 29 matches for Harlequins and England in all competitions last season, totting up a total of 2,088 minutes. That workload was greater than those of Farrell (18 games and 1,377 minutes), Mako Vunipola (24/1,380), George (27/1,656) and Itoje (27/2,049). The rationale for the returns of Farrell and Mako Vunipola, whose seasons were disrupted by injury, are clearer.

Billy Vunipola, though, is back after playing in 32 matches for Saracens and England and amassing 2,278 minutes – more than Smith on both counts.

Jones has previously suggested that Vunipola prefers playing to training when it comes to conditioning, but these inconsistencies are damaging to the Premiership – a league that already suffers from multiple fixture clashes with international windows.

Last season, remarkably, the Premiership semi-final in June was the first of three matches between Harlequins and Saracens in which England players were involved.

Rule change could pave way for Ealing promotion

By Ben Coles

Ealing Trailfinders’ attempt to become a Gallagher Premiership side next season has received a boost following news from the Professional Game Board of changes to the promotion requirements for teams in the Championship.

The minimum-standards criteria for next season have been altered, with clubs granted additional time to increase their stadium capacity to the required 10,001.

Ealing were denied promotion from the Championship this year, after winning the title ahead of Doncaster Knights, which would have expanded the Premiership to 14 sides for the 2022-23 season, given their Trailfinders Sports Ground holds approximately 5,000 spectators, with 2,115 seats. But yesterday’s announcement would give the club more time between January and the end of this season to increase the stadium’s capacity if they so wished, or to find a suitable groundshare.

The club, backed by multimillionaire businessman Sir Mike Gooley, have been targeting a place in the Premiership for several years.

Doncaster may also hope to capitalise on the new requirements. Their Castle Park stadium, which has hosted England Women’s internationals, currently has a capacity of 5,000, with 1,650 seats. From January, clubs seeking to be promoted to the Premiership must have a capacity of 5,000 and planning permission to develop the ground up to a capacity of 10,001, with funding in place and an agreement with a contractor.

By the start of the 2023-24 season, clubs must have a capacity of 5,000 and, at the least, a non-statutory safety certificate from their local authority in place, along with confirmation from the local authority as to its assurance and enforcement process. Finally, by the 2024-25 season, clubs must have a capacity of 10,001 and a full statutory general certificate. The announcement also warned: “If these are not in place it will result in relegation.”

Phil de Glanville, the PGB chair, said: “It remains the view of the PGB that a minimum grounds capacity of 10,001 is important due to the rigour of the local authority-issued safety certificate for stadia of this size in addition to its importance for fans, sponsors and broadcasters.”

“We recognise the challenges of achieving promotion and sustaining the club once in the Premiership and want to support Championship clubs with a transition season to allow Championship clubs more time to achieve the 10,001 capacity criteria once in the Premiership.”



Pride of Wales:
Eddie Butler in New Zealand with the British and Irish Lions in 1983 (left), leading out Wales (below), playing for Pontypool against Saracens (top right) and on commentary duty (below right)



BILLY STICKLAND/PHOTO SHUTTERSTOCK/GETTY IMAGES

Brian Moore



I am devastated and have lost a very dear friend

From Page 1
death. "He's no Bill McLaren", "A pale shadow", "You never got this bias with Bill".

These comments were always unfair. Eddie never tried to emulate Bill. He was, from first to last, his own man. If you followed a man whose voice had been synonymous with rugby for nearly 50 years, who also happened to be a genius, you would struggle to make your own mark immediately.

I can't now remember our first game together as a

commentary duo, but I remember how I felt throughout our time together in the commentary box.

Eddie was never precious with the microphone. He didn't want to dominate the conversations which, inevitably, he did anyway because lead commentators have to say far more than co-commentators. You did not have to nudge Eddie to get room to say what you wanted, he left the space open for you, to contribute or not, as you wished.

This might sound straightforward, but when a commentary pair get it wrong, either way, it grates in a very obvious and irksome way.

We did not spend as much time together outside the commentary box as you would think. Some pairings travel, eat and relax together in an almost symbiotic way and from that they say comes their tightness during work and friendships that last for life, even though they are essentially working relationships.

It was never thus between us. If we were in the mood to share a table or a walk, so be it, if not, there was no umbrage. We never felt slighted, and it did not need to be like that for our commentaries to work. I think we both

acknowledged that the other had experienced the maelstrom for international and British Lions rugby. We never had to prove ourselves to each other.

Eddie was an intelligent man and that made discourse with him, on and off air, a pleasurable challenge, not a tedious difficulty. Our conversations off the field would rarely be about rugby because you do not often meet somebody who is comfortable discussing a myriad of topics without showing off.

Many English fans railed against what they saw as pro-Welsh bias, but strangely, I heard a number of Welsh fans decry Eddie for being pro-English. The fact is that on this subjective subject, the viewer listens only to what they want to hear, those things that confirm their preconceived views.

I found the Welsh criticism was often due to facts like Eddie was the college boy in that fearsome Pontypool pack. It was hardly his fault he was the only one to go to university. Similarly, there was a suspicion that he wasn't "true" Welsh, living in Monmouth and speaking eruditely; not a valley boy, you see. If only they knew Eddie was born in Newport, which is now twinned with Mordor. It must have been a shock when Eddie latterly declared himself as a Welsh nationalist. I remember the death threats when he clashed with Alfie Thomas over the departure of coach Mike Ruddock, posing questions everyone had but none would voice.

Yes, we used to argue, but in a respectful manner, neither of us would readily concede a point

without testing the other. Some media analysts posit that arguments are contrary to good broadcasting. They are if they descend into rancour; they aren't if they come to resemble those of Statler and Waldorf.

Perhaps my most memorable moment with Eddie on air came in an England v Italy game. Toby Flood had again kicked away England possession and I exclaimed "For God's sake". There is then a silence as Eddie was watching me stamp around the back of the commentary box swearing repeatedly. When he does decide he has to continue commentating, he cannot suppress chortling at the demented antics of his partner.

I am still in a state of profound shock, trying to absorb the fact that I will never hear his voice again

I never told Eddie how much I rated him as a professional and how highly I regarded him as a man. Not just for his eclecticism but also for his understated passion and humility.

He handled the stick he took from the public and, believe me, there was an awful lot of it to begin with. Ignoring this, he defined his own style, he eventually and rightly, became as much a part of rugby, and sport, as any of his counterparts previous or past.

It is never the wrong time to say the above words, or that you love somebody; I just hope he knew.

Arteta: Any manager would want to have versatile player like White

Arsenal defender backed after omission from England squad

Leaders wait on Zinchenko fitness for visit to Brentford

By Sam Dean

Mikel Arteta has said that Ben White is fit and available for tomorrow's match against Brentford and that the Arsenal defender was left out of the latest England squad on selection grounds.

White was omitted from Gareth Southgate's squad despite an impressive start to the season at Arsenal, where he has been playing on the right side of Arteta's defence.

Telegraph Sport understands White has been dealing with some fitness issues related to the physical demands that come with his new role as a full-back, rather than at centre-back, but Arteta insisted the 24-year-old was not injured.

With two months remaining before the World Cup, White now appears to be behind the likes of Conor Coady, Harry Maguire and Marc Guehi in Southgate's defensive pecking order. Eric Dier, John Stones and Fikayo Tomori have also been included in Southgate's squad.

White has started all six of Arsenal's Premier League matches this season, as Arteta's side have swept to the top of the table ahead of tomorrow's trip to Brentford.

"That is Gareth's decision," Arteta said of White's omission. "Whenever Ben gets the call, he will be ready. He can play in both positions [full-back and centre-back] and to have versatile players who can play them to the level Ben can is something any manager would want." Asked to confirm that it was a selection issue rather than an injury problem that led to White being dropped from the national squad, Arteta said: "Yeah, yeah. He is fit."

Arteta refused to rule out left-back Oleksandr Zinchenko, who has been left out of Ukraine's squad for their own international matches. The Ukrainian FA has said Zinchenko suffered a calf injury in training and will be out for two

weeks. The Arsenal manager, however, suggested that Zinchenko might still be able to get through tomorrow's league match.

"We have to wait until tomorrow [Saturday] to make that decision," Arteta said on Zinchenko. "Where he was at that moment and what we have decided to do for international week does not mean that we will decide the same for the weekend."

Another Arsenal player struggling for fitness is Emile Smith Rowe, who is now facing an uphill battle to make the England squad for the World Cup. Arteta said: "He has had some discomfort in the groin area and hasn't had any continuity this season. It's something we are trying to assess."

Costa could make first Wolves start against City

Wolves manager Bruno Lage would not reveal whether Diego Costa will be involved against Manchester City today.

The 33-year-old striker joined on a free transfer this week after Wolves appealed when his initial application for a work permit was rejected. Costa, who was at Chelsea between 2014 and 2017 and has two Premier League winners' medals, has not played since leaving Brazilian club Atletico Mineiro in January and Lage says he will need time to be ready.

"Let's see, we have one more day, let's see if he can be available or not," Lage said. "When Sasa [Kalajdzic] got injured, Diego was available, it was a time to talk to him and convince him to come to us, so we are very happy with him."

"But we also know he needs time to be ready. He is fit, there are no problems, but he needs to be ready to compete at this level."

The Portuguese manager admitted he tried to sign Costa when he joined the club in the summer of 2021, but the Brazilian wanted to return home.

"I can say now because he is here, when I received the invitation from Wolves, one of the first guys I called was [Atletico Madrid player]

Hungry like the wolf: Free transfer Diego Costa has not played since leaving Brazilian club Atletico Mineiro in January



Joao Felix to know about Diego Costa.

"Joao said good things about his personality and about the way he continued to play."

Costa's arrival eases a striking crisis as Kalajdzic suffered a serious knee injury on his debut against Southampton while Raul Jimenez is still struggling with his fitness. Jimenez will not be available against City.

Lage added: "Raul is still not available and is still not working with the team. After the time he was in the recovery [from his knee injury], he needed to play three games in a row."

"We talked and he was a little bit tired, sort of like chronic fatigue. Now he needs time to recover. He has had some treatment but he is not available tomorrow."

Kalajdzic – a £15 million signing from Stuttgart – lasted 45 minutes before suffering an ACL injury and has undergone surgery.

"The operation was good, I can see him in the building, he is enthusiastic to recover as quickly as possible," Lage added. "But it was very disappointing. I have been here 15 months and asked for a striker with a different profile than Raul."

"Sasa is going to be nearer the box and he just played 45 minutes for us. This type of injury will be six months and then depending on him. At least six more months in front of him."



Eyes on the ball: Defender Ben White during Arsenal's training session at London Colney yesterday ahead of the leaders' Premier League visit to Brentford tomorrow

French federation faces inquiry over harassment claim

France's sports minister ordered an investigation into the French Football Federation after its president, Noel Le Graet, faced claims of sexual harassment.

Amelie Oudea-Castera met with Le Graet yesterday and then announced the investigation – known as an "audit and control mission" – which will be carried out by the state inspection body in charge of sports.

The meeting came one day after the federation announced its decision to file a defamation lawsuit

against *So Foot* magazine, which reported this month that Le Graet allegedly harassed several female employees.

The French sports magazine published a six-page investigation quoting comments from anonymous former and current employees, and inappropriate text messages that Le Graet allegedly sent to the women. *So Foot* also described an alleged toxic culture at the federation.

In a statement, Oudea-Castera said she took note of what Le Graet had said at their meeting. She said it

was "imperative that the FFF continues its activities with absolute respect for all employees, regardless of their hierarchical position".

The minister also called on the federation to "actively ensure prevention and fight against all forms of

discrimination and violence, including sexist and sexual violence".

Le Graet said he would provide the inspection mission with all recent reports about the FFF, especially those regarding his management, "in the greatest transparency", the statement said.

Le Graet, 80, has not publicly reacted to the accusations. In an interview with *L'Equipe* this week, he brushed off rumours that he could retire after the 2022 World Cup before the end of his mandate, which is set to expire in 2024.

Allegations: Noel Le Graet is reported to have sent inappropriate messages to several female employees at the French federation



Fulham fire rapid three-goal salvo

Nottingham Forest 2

Awoniyi 11, O'Brien 77

Fulham 3

Adarabioyo 54, Palhinha 57, Reed 60

By John Percy
at the City Ground

Five minutes and 18 seconds were all Fulham required to force Nottingham Forest into another meltdown in front of their own fans.

For the second home match in a row, Forest were reduced to a quivering mess as Fulham flipped the momentum of the game in an amazing second-half blitz to move into the Premier League's top six.

Forest have now lost four games in a row, conceding 14 goals in the process, and it is Fulham who appear far more settled on their return to the top division.

Marco Silva's team moved above Chelsea and Liverpool with their third win of the season and even managed to secure it without Aleksandar Mitrovic being amongst the goalscorers.

The three goals early in the second half were the fastest a Premier League team had scored a treble since Arsenal scored three at Liverpool in four minutes and 45 seconds five years ago.

Unfairly regarded as relegation certainties before a ball was even kicked, Fulham have made an impressive start to the campaign and Silva's words at half-time here were crucial.

"We had to show personality and we were definitely the best team on the pitch here," he said.

"It was a fantastic feeling for us even if we suffered a little in the last few minutes and they had belief they could score again."

"The position in the table is not important right now but I am happier with the way we are playing against all the opposition."

"It has been a good start but we are humble enough to know how hard it is in the Premier League."

Ahead of Steve Cooper's first anniversary in charge, this was another uncomfortable experience

for the Forest manager following the capitulation against Bournemouth in their previous outing at the City Ground.

In that game, Forest had taken a 2-0 lead before collapsing to defeat and this was like a repeat of a chilling horror movie.

"That mindset around that five minutes has cost us the game," Cooper said.

"We are not handling conceding the first goal well enough and you cannot do that at any level, particularly this one."

"We need to stick together and not hide away from it. If we do that we give ourselves the best chance of progressing."

Yesterday was a year to the day that Forest sacked Chris Hughton, with Cooper appointed shortly afterwards to mastermind a remarkable turnaround which ended with promotion at Wembley.

Since that play-off final, Forest have embarked on a record-breaking summer transfer window, with 22 new signings coming in and £150million invested by ambitious owner Evangelos Marinakis.

Cooper is still attempting to work out his best line-up in an unforgiving division and though his team started cautiously they were ahead after 11 minutes.

After Morgan Gibbs-White's corner was flicked on by Ryan Yates towards the far post, Taiwo Awoniyi was in the right place to nod the ball home. It was the Nigerian's second goal since his £17.5million move from Union Berlin.

Fulham finished 10 points ahead of Forest last season, lifting the Championship title, and appear to have learned lessons from their last stay in the top flight.

Two years ago they spent £100million in a strategy that was accused of being chaotic, with the campaign ending in relegation.

This summer they have signed 12 players but the business seems far more calculated, with a spend of just over £60million.

They did have chances in the first half but the mood completely shifted in the space of six crazy minutes early into the second.

Forest had been living dangerously and there was an air of inevitability about Fulham's equaliser when it came nine minutes in. It was brutally simple in its execution, with Tosin Adarabioyo given far too much space to powerfully head home from Willian's corner.

Suddenly the City Ground was nervy, an arena of anxiety, and Fulham sensed it, taking the lead in the 57th minute.

This time it was an exquisite finish from Joao Palhinha, the Portuguese midfielder, bending a shot into the top corner from just outside the area.

Fulham added a third on the hour mark as Forest's defence were torn apart. Mitrovic found an unmarked Harrison Reed in the area and the midfielder directed his shot into the corner.

Cooper wheeled around in his technical area in disbelief, unable to comprehend what was unfolding in front of him.

Forest should have reduced the deficit in the 66th minute but Awoniyi somehow contrived to miss the target from four yards out, again at the far post.

Forest goalkeeper Dean Henderson produced a fine save to prevent Andreas Pereira from finding the corner of the net with a 22 yard free-kick, but the hosts did respond 13 minutes from time.

Brennan Johnson burst into the Fulham area and though his cross was cut out by Adarabioyo, Forest substitute Lewis O'Brien converted the loose ball.

Six minutes of added time cranked up the tension but Forest could not find the crucial equaliser and Fulham will head into the international break with renewed confidence.

Nottingham Forest (3-4-1-2) Henderson 6; Boly 4 (Worrall 63), Cook 5 (Lingard 63), McKenna 4; Williams 6 (Dennis 88), Freuler 5 (O'Brien 70), Yates 5, Lodi 5; Gibbs-White; 6 Johnson 5, Awoniyi 5 (Surridge 70). **Subs** Hennessey (g), Biancone, Toffolo, Kouyaté. **Booked** Cook, Boly.

Fulham (4-2-3-1) Leno 6; Tete 7, Adarabioyo 8, Ream 7, Diop 7; Reed 7, Palhinha 7; Decordova-Reid 6 (Kebano 90+1), Pereira 6 (Cairney 83), Willian 7 (James 70); Mitrovic 8 (Vinicio 90+1).

Subs Rodak (g), Duffy, Chalobah, Mbabu, Harris.

Booked Diop, Palhinha, Tete, Pereira.

Referee Jared Gillett (Australia). Att 28,654.



Ramsey adds to Villa impetus after Prince of Wales backing

Aston Villa 1

Ramsey 41

Southampton 0

By John Aizlewood *at Villa Park*

Even in this most difficult of weeks, Aston Villa fan the Prince of Wales found time to message the club offering support for last night's game. As Villa head coach Steven Gerrard admitted, the 1-0 victory

over supine Southampton was not the prettiest, but it may have brought comfort to the Prince.

"I hope we've made him proud," Gerrard said. "He's constantly in touch. He's really supportive of the boys and I'm so impressed with how much knowledge he has."

In fact, the game was less tight than the scoreline might suggest. Villa took three points for only the second time this season and by the most slender of margins, but once Jacob Ramsey scored what proved to be the winner, they were over-

whelmingly superior to a Southampton side who barely managed a coherent attack until added time when Stuart Armstrong headed wide from James Ward-Prowse's free-kick.

"Not sharp enough, not quick enough, not good enough," Southampton manager Ralph Hasenhuttl lamented. "They had

Sticking together:
Steven Gerrard

a chance, we didn't. When you have no power, it is not enough for the Premier League."

How Villa needed the fillip. There were green shoots in the draw against Manchester City last time out and last night Philippe Coutinho was both lambent and committed, John McGinn added vim and vigour and the defensive unit was

watertight. "It was about resilience, character, sticking together and owning the pitch," Gerrard said.

Coutinho, more hungry than at any time during his Villa sojourn, was in spring-heeled mode, linking with

Ollie Watkins. He set out his stall as early as the seventh minute, spraying a pinpoint

crossfield pass to Leon Bailey, who fluffed his lines.

Southampton are struggling for traction. Hasenhuttl replaced Joe Aribo with Moussa Djenepo, but a bench packed with youngsters – but not the fit Ainsley Maitland-Niles – suggested strength in depth may become an increasing problem.

Briefly, Djenepo was a menace down the right and when he crossed, only Ezri Konsa's timely intervention prevented Che Adams from sneaking Southampton ahead.

Indeed, Southampton benefitted from Ward-Prowse playing in a more advanced role than usual and Djenepo switching to the left where he could prey on Ashley Young and they had a period of domination.

Undaunted, Villa battled their way back and never let their chokehold slip. McGinn was everywhere, Coutinho dropped back to see more of the ball and Bailey was always an



as Forest stunned again



Crashing finish: Jacob Ramsey fires in Aston Villa's winner with his first goal since March

ACTION IMAGES VIA REUTERS

outlet. Still, the first third of the game passed without either goalkeeper in any sort of peril.

Southampton finally crumbled in the 41st minute. First Gavin Bazunu made a deft stop at his near post from Coutinho's header. From the resulting corner, Watkins headed towards goal, Bazunu palmed it against the bar, Mohammed Salisu made a hash of the clearance and Ramsey crashed home his first goal since March.

Villa could have had more before the interval. Bazunu's fingertips kept out Bailey's low drive and when substitute Douglas Luiz's corner looked set to dip into goal, the goalkeeper reacted to paw it over.

Hasenhuttl was bold at the break, making a double substitution, most intriguingly a first taste of English football for Juan Larios, the teenage Spanish full-back signed from Manchester City for £6million over the

summer. Physically unimposing, he found the muscular Bailey as difficult as Romain Perraud had in the first period.

Southampton flung men forward – including Samuel Edozie, another teenage signing from Manchester City – but to little avail. As the end drew near, Villa looked likely to give the scoreline a more realistic hue. It did not happen, but no matter: they have something to build on.

In contrast, Southampton's house is beginning to resemble one built from straw.

Aston Villa (4-4-2) Martinez 6; Young 6, Konsa 7, Mings 7, Digne 6; Bailey 7 (Bueno 67), Ramsey 6 (Dendoncker 67), Kamara 6 (Douglas Luiz 44), McGinn 7; Watkins 6, Coutinho 8 (Ings 84). **Subs** Olsen (g), Sanson, Chambers, Augustinsson, Nakamba. **Booked** Coutinho, Ramsey, Young.

Southampton (4-1-4-1) Bazunu 7; Walker-Peters 7, Bella-Kotchap 6, Salisu 6, Perraud 5 (Larios h-t); Diallo 5 (Aribo h-t); Djenepe 7, Ward-Prowse 6, Elyounoussi 5 (Edozie 79), A Armstrong 5 (S Armstrong 71); Adams 5 (Mara 71). **Subs** McCarthy (g), Lyanco, Caleta-Car, Walcott. **Booked** Ward-Prowse.

Referee Tony Harrington (Teesside). Att 40,758.

Mead at the double helps Arsenal cash in on red card

Women's Super League

Arsenal	1-0	Brighton
Little 28, Blackstenius 50, Mead 63, 83		

By Fiona Tomas
at Meadow Park

"Are you watching, Emma Hayes?" sang the Arsenal faithful, after Stina Blackstenius fired home the hosts' second of the evening, wondering, perhaps if this could be the season their side can reclaim the league title they last lifted in 2019.

Even if Chelsea's esteemed manager – who has ensured her side have become the undisputed heavyweights of the Women's Super League over the last three years – had tuned into this opening game of the new season, she need not have been too concerned.

For 83 minutes of this contest, Arsenal had an extra woman on the pitch courtesy of Brighton's Emma Kullberg being sent off early on. At times, it was hard to tell, such was the Seagulls' unyielding resolve to disrupt Arsenal's intricate passages of play.

In the end, goals from Kim Little, Blackstenius and a Beth Mead brace ensured a comfortable opening victory for the hosts as the English women's top-flight returned after a bumper summer of international football on these shores. "To have home support and the fans shouting all the songs, it doesn't get much better than that," said Little.

Brighton's prospects of a first victory against Arsenal soon faded when Kullberg was given her marching orders for tripping Blackstenius outside the penalty area.

Arsenal initially struggled to impose themselves on Brighton, however, and were wasteful. Vivianne Miedema went charging through the defence only to square a poor pass to Blackstenius. The all-time leading WSL goalscorer endured a quiet evening. It was the first time the Dutchwoman had failed to score in a WSL opener for her club.

Both Caitlin Foord and Blackstenius hit the woodwork, while Lia Walti's strike was expertly palmed away by keeper Megan Walsh.

She was helpless, however, to stop Blackstenius from rifling in Arsenal's second not long after the break, before Mead – in her first league outing since being nominated for the women's Ballon d'Or – fired in from close range.

"Mead will tear you apart again," the crowd chanted. As the visitors wilted, the England striker did just that, tiptoeing past her marker to shoot home again and get Arsenal's season off to a safe, albeit unconvincing start.

Arsenal (4-3-2-1) Zinsberger; Wienroither, Williamson (Wubben-Moy 83), Souza, McCabe; Walti (Maunum 76), Little, Miedema (Nobbs 76); Mead, Foord (Cattley 63); Blackstenius (Hurtig 63). **Subs** Marckese, Beattie, Maritz, Iwabuchi.

Brighton (4-4-2) Walsh; Fox, Williams, Kullberg, Pattison; Terland, Lee, Zigiotti (Ferguson 83), Bance (Robinson h-t); Green, Sarri. **Subs** Startup, Park, Jarvis. **Sent off** Kullberg.

Referee Lisa Benn. Att 3,238.

Gundogan sets gold standards for City

Exclusive interview

Guardiola's first signing and captain opens up on putting others first, Haaland's impact and his plans to be a manager

By Jason Burt
CHIEF FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

Like all good captains, Ilkay Gundogan has kept a particular eye on his club's new signings. Indeed, there is a young striker who sits by him in the Manchester City dressing room who has already made quite the impression on the Premier League.

"We have a goal-scoring machine up front," Gundogan says. "He has the smell for where the ball is going to drop, for the danger, and he has shown that incredibly in the first few games. That was not a surprise to me. A little surprise was maybe just the way he is. He is sitting in the dressing room next to me and I see his behaviour from very close and he has just the right mindset... it's not just the goals - it's the character and attitude he shows every single day."

Even so, 13 goals in eight appearances is some start for Erling Haaland, who, like Gundogan, joined City from Borussia Dortmund. But while Haaland was the 42nd signing of the Pep Guardiola era, it is Gundogan who has the distinction of being the first, back in 2016, and since then he has continued to set the standards on and off the pitch for what the most demanding of managers wants.

Like Haaland, Gundogan has just the right mindset, with Guardiola constantly using him as his point of reference. It was no surprise that the midfielder was chosen as club captain in a vote by his team-mates in the summer following Fernandinho's departure and it is interesting to hear how the 31-year-old talks about himself and the role he plays.

"I remember once, someone said to me that I'm the type of player who makes the others shine on the pitch, and that's how I consider myself," Gundogan says. "I never try to put myself first. I try to put the attention on others and that's also how I go through life a little bit. I don't take myself too seriously or think I am too important. I appreciate what I have."

Despite Haaland - and Gundogan's other team-mates at City - feeling the benefit of his selflessness, the Germany international has himself shone.

And not least on the final day of the Premier League last season when he came off the bench to score two goals, including the winner, as City dramatically overturned a 2-0 deficit to beat Aston Villa 3-2 and claim a fourth title in five years. It was Gundogan's own Sergio Aguero moment.

"It still does not feel real. It's surreal. It was not long ago but it feels like ages ago. It's something that's unexplainable," Gundogan says, before trying to find the words. "Being 2-0 down with 20 minutes to play and you have to win... what do you do in that moment? You start again. You keep it simple. You try to get the first goal as quickly as possible."

"We never really lost our heads and that helped us a lot. We were tense, nervous but tried to stay stable and the moment we scored, I scored, the first one we thought 'there's something in this'. Then we scored the second and the momentum changed completely and I was sure we would score the third one. It's a day I will never forget."

How did it compare to previous title wins? "Even though we had a season with 100 points, we had another when we won the last 14 games [with Gundogan scoring a superb free-kick in the final, must-win match away to Brighton] and finished a point ahead of Liverpool, winning it like that and in that style and in such a dramatic way, I think, is incredible in terms of the emotions on the pitch that day. It makes it so much more memorable."

Mention of Liverpool - led by Gundogan's former Dortmund coach Jurgen Klopp - brings us to what has been the big rivalry of recent years: two great sides, with two great managers, pushing each other to even greater heights.

"I think it's exactly that. The Premier League is on such a high level and you have to get 95-96 points to win the league, which is incredible. It's not something you could imagine a few years ago. It's set the standard and having Liverpool there obviously helped us a lot and helped them to reach new limits also."

"It's incredible to have a team like Liverpool who you have to compete



Leading the way:
Ilkay Gundogan scores the winner against Aston Villa to seal the title for City last season, and (right) with Pep Guardiola

'Having reached two Champions League finals and lost them both it feels like something is missing'

with and who play with such intensity. They push every single game and for a time last season they felt unstoppable and we always had to have an answer, which also made it exciting for us, to be honest."

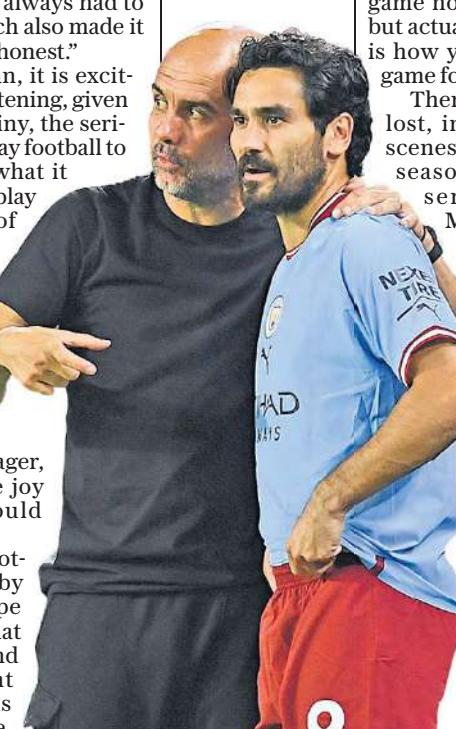
And, for Gundogan, it is exciting. Indeed, it is heartening, given the stakes, the scrutiny, the seriousness of modern-day football to hear him describe what it actually feels like to play for City. "It's a lot of fun. In a lot of ways, this is a business, in the modern game, but I really think with a certain style that your team plays, with the individuals and the manager, you need to get the joy out of it. You should never forget that."

"How do we as footballers do that? It's by playing a certain type of football. A type that fits our standards and by having the right manager who lets us do it and gives us the

right material to work on it and, with the individual quality, that mix makes the way we approach the game not just enjoyable to watch but actually enjoyable to play. That is how you take the joy from the game for yourself."

There was little joy when City lost, in even more remarkable scenes than their title win, last season's Champions League semi-final against Real Madrid. Gundogan pledged he would not watch the final and kept his word. "No, I didn't watch it. I could have but, I don't know, I feel that every year we are not in it is a year we miss out with the quality that we have in the squad... it's always a motivation for me."

"Growing up, for me, the Champions League was the biggest thing in the world and having reached two finals [with Dortmund in 2013 and City in 2021] and lost them both it feels like, OK, something is missing and it's something that I





would love to achieve. I don't define myself by that but, obviously, when you know when you have enough quality and potential to get to the final again you want to try your best to be there."

Gundogan, born in Germany to Turkish parents, is acutely aware of having what he calls a "very privileged life" as a footballer. I carried out the first interview with him when he joined City six years ago (he professes to remember, even recalling what he wore and the instructions he received from the photographer) and he is still the same, enthusiastic, thoughtful, intelligent player and person.

"There is a responsibility to help others," Gundogan says with, again, the captain in him coming out as he is asked about the community work he has done - from having an artificial pitch built for his childhood club in Gelsenkirchen to auctioning his old shirts to raise cash for cafes and restaurants in Manchester during lockdown.

It is no surprise to hear that, having already completed his Uefa B coaching licence and worked with the Under-16s at City, he plans to become a manager and is a football junkie. He watches every game he

can, especially if it is in the Premier League. "It's something that I really can imagine for the future," Gundogan says of being a manager. "It's something that is hopefully still quite far away and I have some good years left to play. But I think going in that direction is realistic for me."

Captain scraps player fines

Ilkay Gundogan has disclosed that Manchester City have stopped fining players for lateness or ill-discipline.

The midfielder, who was elected captain by his team-mates in the summer, said he did not believe in fines for misdemeanours such as being late for training or using a mobile phone in the wrong area.

He said: "I like to always give the players the benefit of the doubt. If you

trust the players and give them responsibility, with the group we have, they are going to reward it. Once someone gets out of line, it's more important to have a conversation.

"We are all human beings and at some points we don't always realise when we are doing something wrong."

Pep Guardiola, the City manager, raised the fines in 2018 as he cracked down on discipline.

For now, Gundogan is fully concentrated on leading City in what could be more than the two-horse race of recent years even if Haaland has, undoubtedly, added another dimension to City's attack.

"Someone for who we can play the ball into space because we know he has the pace," Gundogan explains. "We know that we can put crosses into the box now more than ever - much more so than last year when it was about timing and finding the free man."

Gundogan's approach to captaincy is simple: lead by example. "And that's something you do maybe by your actions and not so much by your words, and I love to do that by having the right attitude, the right behaviour, at all times. I may not be the loudest one in the dressing room but I have a sense to know when is the right time to say something." That brings us back to Gundogan's desire to make his team-mates "shine". "Because of the way I play on the pitch I am not someone who really puts himself first, who puts himself in the spotlight," he concludes. "I love to help my team-mates to make them better, or as good as possible and support them."

'Haaland test will be exciting, a chance to go against the best'

As a key part of the Premier League's tightest defence, Wolves' Nathan Collins faces the ultimate challenge today

By John Percy

Nathan Collins will know that however he performs against Erling Haaland today, he is assured of a detailed post-match critique from his football-mad family.

Wolverhampton Wanderers are the latest club charged with stopping Manchester City and Haaland, who has 13 goals in his past eight games, but it is a challenge Irish centre-back Collins is relishing.

The £20.5million summer signing from Burnley has helped Wolves secure three clean sheets and the best defensive record - they have conceded just four - in the Premier League. Today could prove his toughest test, and there is little doubt that his biggest fans - father Dave, uncle Eamonn and the rest of the Collins family - will be watching with interest.

"My dad and uncle are from the tough days of football," he says. "They will always tell me where I'm going wrong. Are they my harshest critics? Massively. I could have a wonderful game and they would find the littlest thing, saying I should do this or talk more and my position should be here. It's great to have that support as it drives me on and makes me work harder."

With such a vast football family, Collins was never likely to work in any other profession and admits it probably would not have been allowed. Dave came through Liverpool's academy, while Eamonn, a former midfielder, had a long career at clubs including Southampton and Colchester. Nathan's older brother, Josh, played in the League of Ireland and grandfather Michael captained Dublin side Transport to the FAI Cup in 1950.

"Football is my life and it always has been. I can't get away from it ever," Nathan says. "Every night I'm talking to them about football, what the tactics are and what I need to do. Either my mum or dad, or both, will come to every game. They would get planes, trains, taxis or even cycle to matches if they had to. They just love supporting me."

"My little brother [Seb] is also obsessed with football, he copies me in

everything I do. My little sister [Keavy] plays Gaelic football and is really good at it."

So, on to Haaland and City. The £51million signing has made an incredible impact since joining from Borussia Dortmund, delivering a stupendous acrobatic winner to sink his former club in the Champions League on Wednesday. Collins, however, cannot wait to face a player who was compared to Johan Cruyff by Pep Guardiola this week.

"It's going to be tough and we know how many chances he [Haaland] gets in a game, but this is why we play football," Collins says. "We want to keep testing ourselves and go against the best. We're really excited."

"They are one of the best teams in the world but we have to look at what we've been doing well, and if there are little things we can change to stop them from getting balls across the box [to Haaland]. This is one game and if we can get the better of him it will be great, and then we'll keep going again. We're just enjoying it and, while people are saying City will be a hard game, we honestly can't wait."

Collins, 21, has appeared a shrewd signing since his move from relegated Burnley.

A modern-day centre-back who plays on the front foot, he seems entirely suited to Bruno Lage's style of play, where defenders are encouraged to step out of the back four. He names Barcelona's Gerard Pique as one of his inspirations.

Collins also possesses clear leadership qualities, which have been evident since he became Stoke's youngest captain at the age of 18.

His partnership with Max Kilman is flourishing and Lage's surprise decision to offload Conor Coady, a key figure in recent Wolves history, has become almost an afterthought. In the last match against Southampton, Collins and Kilman won all their aerial duels.

"Since I've come in, me and 'Maxy' have bonded really well," Collins says. "We've got a good relationship and that shows on the pitch. We both want to play the new generation of football, passing it out from the back. We've both got a side where we can get stuck in, win headers and dominate the striker, but we complement each other well."

The pursuit of perfection is the constant driving force. "I want to become the best player I can be. I don't think I've done anything in the game yet. I don't think I've made my mark. I want to play here as long as I can. My aspirations are top six, Europe or whatever, and I want to do that here. I want to improve every day."



Tough foe: Nathan Collins (right) will face Erling Haaland

Jamie Carragher



Boehly vision proves Super League is not dead, just hibernating

Chelsea's American owner would do well to research game more thoroughly before speaking his mind

How did the Premier League get it so wrong?

To have risen into a multibillion-pound, multinational industry, attracting most of the world's best players and coaches, filling its stadiums every week and continuing to raise revenues via its increasingly profitable auctions for broadcast rights every four years.

Who can help us turn this dismal failure into a success story worthy of the respect of its latest high-profile club owner, Todd Boehly? If only Boehly had been around from the beginning in 1992 so the top flight of English football could truly have maximised its potential. Think how much higher up the rich list the top clubs could be.

Yes, I am being sarcastic.

The Premier League stands accused of having many faults since its formation 30 years ago; self-importance, greed, the occasional white-washing of the football history that came before, neglecting the lower-league clubs, and treating fans like customers rather than the emotional heartbeat of their club.

Where supporters, former players, journalists and the wisest owners are united in their realisation that for all its flaws, the Premier League has been a sporting and economic triumph. We cannot get enough

of it. Even a weekend off leaves a void in our lives.

Standards on the pitch are rising annually, while the cash register keeps on pinging. Generating revenue and attracting mega-rich shareholders or sponsors is not an issue. More often than not, whenever problems do emerge, it is because of hare-brained schemes which are detrimental to everyone below the most rich and powerful in football's pyramid, hence the widespread and effective resistance when six Premier League club owners secretly negotiated the formation of a European Super League behind the backs of the rest.

When those plans were exposed and swiftly ditched, the most suspicious minds warned how those owners would feel they had only

Wide of the mark:
Todd Boehly has mooted an all-stars game and relegation tournaments, suggesting the top flight is not generating as much money as it should

lost the battle, not the war. What disturbed me most about Boehly's comments in midweek is that they proved such cynicism to be correct. The sentiments which led to the Super League fiasco are not dead, merely in hibernation, with businessmen such as Boehly waiting to seize the next opportunity to mould our game into an ill-fitting vision, his comments suggesting English football is not generating as much cash as it should be.

I am not one of these "traditionalists" who are against brainstorming meetings in which football's administrators look to the future and find new means of exciting supporters and, yes, making money in the process. That is what keeps

He may be surprised to learn that English football needs protecting, not saving

the sport driving forward, even if – as in all parts of society – I am passionate about wealth being distributed more fairly rather than the rich getting richer.

For me, it is not so much the daftness of Chelsea owner Boehly's ideas of a North/South all-stars game and relegation "tournaments" that is the problem. What really annoyed me was the superior tone in which they were delivered. What must worry Chelsea fans is that Boehly is prepared to speak now, think later. Either he has not sought advice about how such comments would be received, or even worse he has not listened to it.

One sentence stood out. "Ultimately, I hope the Premier League takes a little bit of a lesson from American sports," Boehly said.

Here is a lesson Boehly would do well to follow: research your subject matter more thoroughly before speaking. This is not an anti-American sentiment. It is an anti-arrogance sentiment.

In the inevitable rush to criticise him, Boehly is not helped by the fact the jury is still out on whether he can actually run a football club, let alone start calling the shots on how to run English football.

An owner whose dubious understanding of his own purchase means he thinks Mohamed Salah and Kevin De Bruyne are Chelsea academy graduates has some way to go before he sounds well-informed. As does someone whose first big call has been to fire one of the top five coaches working in European football seven games into a season. Whether the decision to sack Thomas Tuchel proves correct in the long term or not, everyone can at least agree the timing of it is bizarre.

Boehly would be wise to speak to some of those owners who, upon buying our highest-profile Premier League teams, made serious mistakes and swiftly came to realise the difference between the perception of what owning an English club is and the reality.

The biggest errors have been a consequence of owners failing to understand that in England, buying a football club is not the same as purchasing a "franchise". The badge, stadium and employees are but one element. What you are really buying is the symbol of a community. For a large proportion of our population, football is not some trivial leisure activity that provides a weekend respite from the pressures of daily life. The game is the centre of our daily lives and needs to be treated as such.

The Premier League is the strongest in the world because of the lessons being expertly delivered by Spanish, German and Italian coaches to an array of overseas stars. In the past, French and Portuguese managers have taken us to another level. That global outlook mixed with the unwavering commitment of fans and passion of our stadiums is what makes our top division so good.

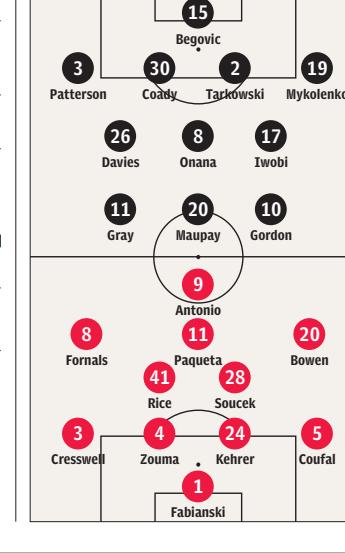
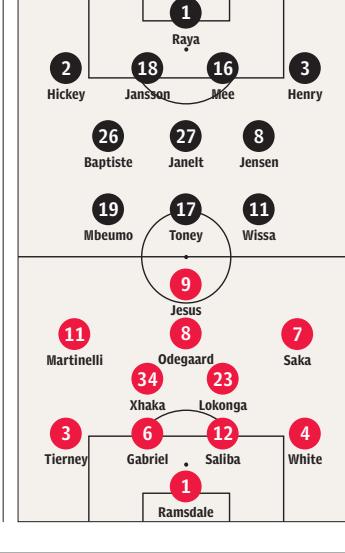
Boehly may be surprised to learn that English football needs protecting, not saving. After the past few days, he may think twice the next time he wants to present himself as some kind of white knight who can lead us to a promised land of more entertainment and greater wealth.



Essential guide to the Premier League weekend



	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Arsenal	6	3	0	0	8	4	2	0	1	6	3	7	15
2 Man City	6	3	0	0	14	2	1	2	0	6	4	14	14
3 Tottenham	6	3	0	0	7	2	1	2	0	5	3	7	14
4 Brighton	6	2	1	0	6	2	2	0	1	5	3	6	13
5 Man Utd	6	2	0	1	6	4	2	0	1	2	4	0	12
6 Chelsea	6	2	1	0	6	4	1	0	2	2	5	-1	10
7 Liverpool	6	2	1	0	12	2	0	2	1	3	4	9	9
8 Brentford	6	2	1	0	10	3	0	2	1	5	6	6	9
9 Leeds	6	2	1	0	6	2	0	1	2	4	8	0	8
10 Fulham*	6	2	1	0	7	5	0	1	2	2	4	0	8
11 Newcastle	6	1	2	0	5	3	0	2	1	3	1	7	7
12 Southampton*	6	1	1	1	4	4	1	0	2	3	6	-3	7
13 Bournemouth	6	1	1	1	2	3	1	0	2	3	15	-13	7
14 Wolves	6	1	2	0	2	1	0	1	2	1	3	-1	6
15 Crystal Palace	6	1	1	1	4	4	0	2	1	3	5	-2	6
16 Everton	6	0	2	1	1	2	0	2	1	3	4	-2	4
17 Aston Villa*	6	1	1	1	3	3	0	0	3	2	7	-5	4
18 West Ham	6	0	1	2	1	5	1	0	2	2	3	-5	4
19 Nottm Forest*	6	1	0	2	3	5	0	1	2	1	9	-10	4
20 Leicester	6	0	1	2	3	5	0	0	3	5	11	-8	1



Fixtures

3pm unless stated

Sky Bet Championship

HOME	AWAY					P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
	P	W	D	L	F								
Sheff Utd	9	4	0	1	1	2	1	6	4	12	20		
Norwich	9	4	1	0	1	1	4	2	2	4	7	19	
Blackburn	9	3	0	2	7	5	2	0	2	4	6	15	
Reading	9	4	0	1	8	5	1	0	3	1	9	13	
Burnley	9	1	3	0	7	5	2	2	1	8	4	14	
Sunderland	9	1	2	1	6	4	3	0	2	8	5	14	
Bristol City	9	3	0	1	8	3	1	2	2	10	11	4	14
QPR	9	2	1	1	7	5	2	1	2	7	6	13	
Rotherham	8	3	2	0	11	2	0	2	1	4	6	13	
Watford	9	3	0	1	6	4	0	4	1	3	5	0	13
Wigan	8	0	3	1	3	7	3	1	0	6	3	-1	13
Preston	9	0	4	1	1	2	2	0	2	0	1	12	
Stoke	9	1	2	1	5	4	2	0	3	6	7	0	11
Birmingham	9	1	1	2	4	5	2	1	2	4	5	-2	11
Cardiff	9	2	1	1	3	2	1	1	3	4	8	-11	
Blackpool	9	1	1	2	4	5	2	1	2	5	8	-4	11
Hull	9	3	0	2	7	9	0	2	2	4	9	-7	4
Luton	9	0	3	2	4	6	2	1	1	5	4	-1	10
Millwall	9	3	0	2	7	5	0	1	3	2	8	-4	10
West Brom	9	1	3	1	9	7	0	3	1	5	6	-2	2
Middlesbrough	9	2	2	1	8	7	0	1	3	5	8	-2	9
Swansea	9	1	1	3	3	8	1	2	1	4	4	-5	9
Huddersfield	8	1	1	3	6	7	0	0	3	2	6	-5	4
Coventry	6	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	3	7	12	-6	2
Birmingham v Coventry													
Burnley v Bristol City													
Huddersfield v Cardiff													
Luton v Blackburn													
Middlesbrough v Rotherham													(7.45)
Millwall v Blackpool													
Norwich v West Brom													
Preston North End v Sheffield Utd													
QPR v Stoke													
Swansea v Hull													(12.30)
Watford v Sunderland													
Wigan v Reading													
VANARAMA NATIONAL: Aldershot v Halifax (5.20), Bromley v Maidstone, Dagenham & Redbridge v Altrincham, Dorking Wanderers v Notts County, Gateshead v Boreham Wood, Maidenhead Utd v Woking, Oldham v Eastleigh, Pontypool Utd v Airbus UK Broughton (2.30).													
WELSH PREMIER: Caernarfon Tn v Haverfordwest County (2.30), Cardiff Met Uni v The New Saints FC (2.30), Flint Town United v Ballin Tn (2.30), Newtonton v Penybont (5.15), Pontypridd Utd v Airbus UK Broughton (2.30).													
ISTHMIAN PREM: Belper Tn v Ashton Utd, Matlock Tn v Warrington Rylands, Stafford Rangers v Radcliffe, Stalybridge Celtic v Nantwich Tn.													
Tomorrow: Cray Wanderers v Bowers & Pitsea.													

Sky Bet League One		Sky Bet League Two		Barclays Women's Super League							
HOME	AWAY	HOME	AWAY	HOME	AWAY						
P	W	P	W	P	W						
Ipswich	8	2	2	0	8	1	2	12	20		
Portsmouth	8	3	1	0	9	3	1	0	8		
Plymouth	8	4	0	6	0	2	0	2	8	18	
Sheff Wed	8	2	1	1	9	5	3	0	1		
Bolton	8	3	0	1	7	3	1	2	4	14	
Cambridge	8	4	0	9	4	0	1	3	8		
Peterboro	8	3	0	1	9	1	0	3	5	12	
Bradford	8	2	0	4	1	2	0	2	7	6	
Doncaster	8	3	0	1	7	6	1	2	3	14	
Mansfield	8	3	1	0	8	3	1	0	3	4	
Grimbsy	7	0	3	0	2	2	0	1	5	3	
Wycombe	8	2	1	1	6	3	1	2	7	11	
Barnsley	8	2	1	5	4	1	2	5	5	11	
Fleetwood	8	1	3	0	3	2	1	2	5	11	
Derby	8	3	0	1	7	5	0	2	3	11	
Exeter	8	3	0	1	8	2	0	2	4	6	
Charlton	8	2	2	0	8	3	1	2	4	11	
Oxford Utd	8	2	1	5	4	1	0	3	5	11	
Shrewsbury	8	1	1	2	3	6	2	0	5	12	
Exeter Vale	8	3	0	1	7	5	0	2	3	11	
Port Vale	8	3	0	1	8	2	0	2	4	10	
Cheltenham	8	1	0	3	5	1	1	2	3	8	
Forest Green	8	1	0	3	8	1	2	1	4	8	
Accrington	8	0	3	1	6	8	1	1	2	3	
Colchester	8	1	2	4	5	0	1	3	7	6	
Carlisle	8	1	2	4	5	1	1	2	3	7	
Carlisle v											

Gentle loosener
England are put through their paces in a first training session since arriving in Karachi on the team's historic tour of Pakistan. Jos Buttler's side, who were escorted to the National Stadium by police outriders and a fleet of armed guards, will become the first England team to play in the country since 2005 when they take on the hosts in a T20 match on Tuesday.



Yorkshire threaten to withdraw Gale pay-off

By Ben Rumsby

Yorkshire have dramatically threatened to renege on their agreement to pay off Andrew Gale the day after announcing they had ended their toxic legal battle with their sacked head coach.

Telegraph Sport has been told that the crisis county have refused to sign a legally-binding deal to compensate Gale to the tune of six figures, which would see them avoid a damaging public hearing into the racism scandal which engulfed the club.

Yorkshire, who announced on Thursday that they had struck deals with both Gale and former bowling coach Richard Pyrah, did not respond to requests for comment on their failure to rubber-stamp the Gale's agreement.

There has been no suggestion Pyrah's deal went unsigned as part of a series of pay-offs that may end up costing the club almost £2million.

The latest twist in the saga came after Lord Patel faced calls to resign as Yorkshire chairman from two of his predecessors over his handling of the sacking of the club's entire coaching team. Calls for Lord Patel's head were led by Robin Smith and Steve Denison, the latter branding



Controversial: Lord Patel is under pressure from two predecessors over Yorkshire's response to the racism scandal

Hales: I am changed but did not think this chance would come

Missing 2019 World Cup win ate at my inside, says batsman
Opener psyched himself up to phone Key over England recall

By Nick Hoult
CHIEF CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
in Karachi

Alex Hales has vowed he is a changed man and learned from the "extremely painful" experience of being an England outcast for three years.

Hales, who netted with his teammates for the first time here yesterday, was effectively sacked as an England player at a World Cup training camp in Wales in April 2019 when it emerged he had failed a test for recreational drugs.

It meant he watched the World Cup final on television as a team he had been a part of for three years lifted the trophy in the most dramatic one-day match of all time.

"As a cricketer, it's your worst nightmare to be involved in a World Cup squad, miss out on the eve of it and then watch your team. Obviously, it's brilliant to see the team lifting it but, at the same time, it eats at you inside that you should have been part of it and you weren't," he said.

"It was one of the weirdest moments of my life. The joy of England winning the World Cup and then you are like 'I should have been there'. It is hard to put it into words because it was a tough thing to

watch and you are battling with joy and frustration.

"The day I found the news out [that he had been dropped] on the morning in Wales was probably the lowest. That drive, I still remember that drive back home from the camp we were in, in Wales, was the longest drive of my life, thinking all sorts. You think your career has ended, that's going to be it, and that was a really tough day."

It took captain Eoin Morgan's retirement, a freak injury to Jonny Bairstow and the approval of England's senior players for Hales to land a place on this trip and a spot in the Twenty20 World Cup squad in Australia next month.

"I think you're asking the wrong guy," he said when asked if it needed Morgan to retire for him to come back. "I think only Eoin would know that. But I think three years is a very, very long time, especially in an athlete's career, it's such a short career, isn't it?"

Over the next two weeks and seven T20s in Pakistan, he will compete with Phil Salt to be Jos Buttler's first-choice partner as an opener in the World Cup and is very much on trial, on and off the field.

Back: Alex Hales with England in Pakistan

"I think I have changed. I've definitely matured," he said. "I'm comfortably into my thirties now and turning into a veteran. I feel as if I've grown as a person and where I am at the moment on the field and off the field is probably the best of my career so far."

"At the end of the day, it was my fault, wasn't it? I was the one who did what I did. I just have to hold my hands up. You have to look yourself in the mirror and try to improve as a person and learn from your mistakes."

Rob Key was the first to indicate a thawing of relations when in his first conference as team director in May he said he thought Hales had "served his time". Morgan's retirement should have opened the door, but

when Hales was then not picked in the original squads for this tour and the World Cup, he called Key to find out if it had all been a PR exercise and if he was still unpickable. He had to psyche himself up for the call, sitting in his car staring at the windscreens as he rehearsed what he would say.

"I mean, I had nothing to lose, did I? I wasn't in the squad. I wanted to know where I stood. I wanted to know if there

was a genuine chance of me playing or whether they were just saying it to the media, so I was quite forceful. I said 'you know, if you were talking purely cricket, I feel like I should be in the squad' and Keysy promised me it was purely cricket. Then when obviously the unfortunate incident happened with Jonny they called me up, so yeah I'm really glad I was proactive, I had nothing to lose. I thought why not go for it?

"I knew him reasonably well, but it's still not a comfortable thing to do to ring up someone and demand to know why you're not playing and stuff. I actually messaged him a couple of hours later to say 'sorry if that was a bit too much', I was just passionate about what I was saying. He replied to say no, he really enjoyed it and that's how it should be."

Hales, 33, was the leading scorer in the 2020-21 Big Bash in Australia and has experience of playing in Pakistan in the Pakistan Super League. He is the only England batsman to score a century in a Twenty20 World Cup and believes he is a better player now than when he last played international cricket.

"I did think the chance would not come again, for sure. It was disappointing not to be in the team for three years," Hales said.

"I felt like I'd been playing the best cricket of my career over those three years as well, so to get this chance again is something I'm really proud of and something I'm really looking forward to, especially the World Cup in Australia."

the chairman's position "completely untenable" and demanding the resignation of other board members behind the club's response to their racism scandal.

Lord Patel has repeatedly threatened to quit Yorkshire amid the backlash against December's decision and the *Telegraph* has been told he could step down once a separate legal case involving the dismissal of subcontracted staff was resolved.

But Smith and Denison called for him to go now after the club was forced to pay out much of the £1.9 million they set aside to fund their response to unfair dismissal and other claims they chose to settle.

Smith said: "An organisation, which, led by Lord Patel, sacks 16 people summarily at one moment and, within a few months, decides they had no case for doing so, is an organisation that is so badly led that its leader should no longer hold the office. He should resign."

Lord Patel did not respond to requests for comment but he did receive the backing of his immediate predecessor, Roger Hutton, who resigned last year over Yorkshire's response to their racism scandal.

Hutton declined to comment on the outcome of the legal action by sacked staff but said of his successor: "By and large, I think he's bringing progressive change to the club."



'Gut-wrenching' Kent exit not the end for Stevens

Interview

All-rounder, 46, rejects idea that today's One-Day Cup final will be his swansong and is set on finding new county

By Tim Wigmore

"That's just called being old, mate," Darren Stevens says with a laugh about his status as a county cricket cult hero. "Being old and still trying to do my job."

Stevens, aged 46, is still doing it well enough that he is preparing for today's Royal London One-Day Cup final: the fifth one-day final of his remarkable career. "Thankfully it's not at Lord's, because I've lost all four there."

Kent's appearance at Trent Bridge today owes much to Stevens. In the quarter-final, he hit 41 from 24 balls against Leicestershire, and then conceded just 37 from his 10 overs as Kent defended 325. Yet it was just a gentle prelude to his performance in the semi-final against Hampshire at the Ageas Bowl. In pursuit of 311 – and after Stevens had again been Kent's most parsimonious bowler – Kent were 176 for four when he arrived at the crease, which soon became a precarious 181 for five.

As Stevens took 10 balls to get off the mark, it threatened to become a reminder of that eternal truth: sport is far too cut-throat to have time for storybook endings. Except, romance won out this time. Stevens overcame his uncertain start and sealed Kent's victory by taking 15 off five balls in the 49th over, sealing the win with a slog-swept six and cover-driven four in consecutive deliveries off Scott Currie.

In the moments after victory, Stevens was embraced by his team-mate Hamidullah Qadri, who was not born until Stevens had already been a professional cricketer for four years. "He gave me a hug and he wouldn't let go. So then it started to sink in and then when we got into the changing rooms, we had a beer. I just took a moment, sat down and took it all in. You could see the excitement and joy on the faces around the room."

Cult hero: Veteran all-rounder Darren Stevens (below) about to unleash a delivery and (right) during his masterful innings against Hampshire that guided Kent into today's final at Trent Bridge

It is for times like these that Stevens plays the sport. "I'm not a stats man. The big thing about winning a game of cricket for Kent is to try to get as close to winning a trophy because trophies are there for life."

Yet all Stevens's excitement cannot conceal how, for him, the final will be bittersweet. For one of Kent's greatest-ever players, it will almost certainly be the last game – Stevens has not played in the County Championship since May, and the club opted not to offer him a new contract despite his coaching work seemingly priming him for a job as player-coach.

"It's gut-wrenching," he reflects. "It really is. I feel like I'm still doing a job and I wish I could carry on at Kent. It's my home club, I've been here 17 years and everybody knows that I want to go down the coaching front afterwards. So I'm disappointed and frustrated, but hopefully it opens the door somewhere else."

After the club confirmed last month that he was being released, two counties have already shown significant interest in recruiting him as a player-coach for next season.

If today is the last time that Stevens is glimpsed playing professional cricket, for Kent at least, it will mark the end of one of the most extraordinary sequences that any modern player has enjoyed on the county circuit. Since 2010, the season in which he turned 34, Stevens has scored 8,819 first-class runs at 36.6, including 21 centuries, while taking 525 wickets at 22.9 apiece, including 31 five-wicket hauls. In this period, Stevens ranks 19th in the list of championship run-scorers, and third in the list of most wickets.

"That's not bad," he says. If Stevens self-deprecatingly credits a pint of Guinness after each day – "plenty of iron" – for his longevity, there is a lot more that explains how a bowler operating around 70mph has been among the most feared new-ball bowlers, and the most consistent all-rounder, in the land.

"It's hard work and dedication, I suppose. For the pace that I bowl, I have to be on the ball every ball. I can't miss my areas. And bowling 20 overs and then four down, or five



down I'm in batting – but I thrive on stuff like that. And yes, I ache in the mornings every now and again. But it's the challenges the game puts in front of you that I love taking on."

As Kent captain, Rob Key first used Stevens as opening bowler, elevating him from occasional medium-pacer – he averaged under five wickets a season in his first 14 championship seasons. Stevens's accuracy, full length and penchant for moving the ball off the seam on helpful wickets – this season's more benign pitches and a softer Dukes ball has been less conducive to his gifts – made him the scourge of top-order batsmen.

"You speak to any bowling coach and I think the first few overs with a new ball, the key is to try to hit the wickets because the batters are at their most vulnerable, and the new

'I ache in the mornings every now and again. But it's the challenges the game puts in front of you that I love taking on'

ball nibbles a bit," Stevens explains. "I ask questions most balls. A lot of the umpires I'm close friends with, there's a running joke that they want me to bowl at the other end and not at their end, as they're constantly in the game because at the pace I bowl I can't afford to miss, so I cause them headaches."

Just ask the Aussies. The WhatsApp group for Australian cricketers playing in county cricket is named "Stevo's gonna get ya". Stevens learnt of the group while golfing with his Australian friend Travis Head, who was playing for Sussex, in May last year.

"It's quite amusing," Stevens reflects. "I nicked him off and Jordan Cox dropped it at first slip, and he came down tapping the pitch, giving me a bit of stick and saying, 'That's it, you don't get another chance', but then fortunately I bowled him." Head, who thumped two rapid centuries during the Ashes, made only 20. Another England nemesis, Marnus Labuschagne, was twice dismissed by Stevens for 11 in last year's championship.

The Australians in the shires, you suspect, will hope that after today they are free of Stevens at last. But he is adamant: just do not call Trent Bridge his farewell.

"We'll see what happens with it," Stevens says. "Fingers crossed, it's not my last one. I'm excited."



Kent v Lancashire



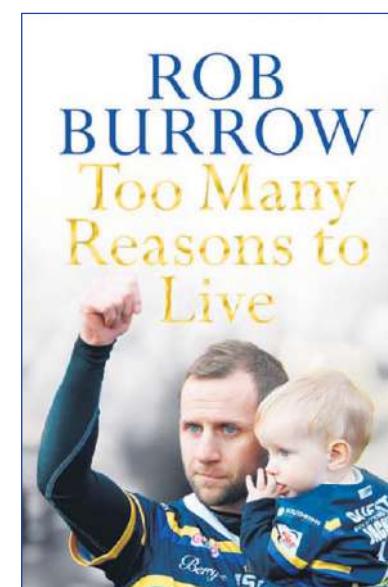
11am, Trent Bridge, Sky Sports

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Ten LIV rebels in frame for St Andrews

Gooch and Oosthuizen among those set for the Dunhill Links
McIlroy leads the Italian Open by one shot from Fitzpatrick

By James Corrigan
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

The Home of Golf will become the latest battleground between the LIV rebels and the Tour loyalists after 10 members of the Saudi-funded circuit entered to tee it up in this month's Dunhill Links alongside Rory McIlroy and Shane Lowry.

The pair revealed that the controversial presence of 15 LIV-contracted players at last week's BMW PGA Championship gave them extra motivation as Lowry won and McIlroy finished second in the DP World Tour's flagship event.

Talor Gooch, the American who finished fourth at Wentworth, leads the LIV brigade into the £4.4-million event that is contested over three of Scotland's finest courses in St Andrews, Carnoustie and Kingsbarns. McIlroy, for one, would not enjoy the image of a LIV golfer raising the trophy on the Swilcan Bridge at the Old Course two weeks tomorrow.

Louis Oosthuizen lifted the Claret Jug at the revered links at the 2010



In the lead: Rory McIlroy plays a shot on his way to a second-round 66 in the Italian Open

Open and the South African, who elected not to play at Wentworth, is also on the starting sheet, alongside compatriots Charl Schwartzel, who won the 2011 Masters, and Branden Grace, the only male player ever to shoot a 62 in the majors, having broken the 63 mark at Birkdale five years ago.

World No 24 Abraham Ancer is the highest-ranked LIV player in the

Dunhill and has clearly been unaffected by last week's heavy criticism from Billy Horschel. The American - who is also entered - singled out Ancer and Gooch for taking up spots at the West Course to try to improve their rankings, with both needing to stay in the world's top 50 until the end of the year to qualify for next year's Masters.

Gooch jumped up to 35th due to

his fine showing in Surrey and another good week in Fife could assure him of an Augusta berth, providing the greenjackets do not alter their qualifying procedures to exclude the rebels.

LIV players have received indefinite bans from the PGA Tour but can continue to appear on the DP World Tour - formerly the European Tour - at least until a court case contesting sanctions is heard in February.

Englishmen Lee Westwood and Ian Poulter are not in the field and neither is Spaniard Segio Garcia, who created controversy by withdrawing without explanation from the PGA after an opening 76. The trio are playing in the fifth £20 million LIV event that began yesterday in Chicago.

McIlroy, meanwhile, goes into this weekend at the Italian Open well placed to go one better than at the PGA. He leads by one shot in Rome from England's Matt Fitzpatrick after shooting a 66 to go nine under. Englishman Tom Lewis is in third on seven under.

Fitzpatrick, reflecting on his round of 69, said: "I've played some really good stuff, [made] some sloppy mistakes, but plenty of birdies, which was always a positive. Going into the weekend in the position I'm in, I'm very happy."

Best of sport on TV

Today

BOXING British Lightweight Title, Gavin Gwynne v Craig Woodruff - Channel 5, 9.30pm.

CRICKET Royal London One-Day Cup final, Kent Spitfires v Lancashire Lightning - Sky Sports Main Event, 10.30am.

CYCLING: Tour of Luxembourg - Eurosport 1, 11.45am.

Tour of Slovakia - Eurosport 1, 2pm. Primus Classic - Eurosport 1, 3.30pm. Road World Championships - Eurosport 1, 12.35.

FOOTBALL Premier League, Wolves v Manchester City - BT Sport 1, 11.30am; Tottenham v Leicester City - Sky Sports Main Event, Sky Sports Premier League, 5pm.

Championship, Swansea City v Hull City - Sky Sports Main Event, Sky Sports Football, 12noon; Middlesbrough v Rotherham United - Sky Sports Football, 7.30pm.

National League, Aldershot v Halifax - BT Sport 1, 5pm.

GOLF Italian Open - Sky Sports Golf, 12.30pm.

LPGA AmazingCrcle Portland Classic - Sky Sports Golf, 8pm.

PGA Tour, The Fortinet Championship - Sky Sports Main Event, Sky Sports Golf, 11pm.

HORSE RACING Newmarket - ITV4, 1.10pm.

RUGBY LEAGUE Super League play-offs, St Helens v Salford - Channel 4, 12.30pm & Sky Sports Arena, 12.30pm.

RUGBY UNION Premiership, Harlequins v Saracens - BT Sport 3, 2.30pm. United Rugby Ch'ipset, Zebre v Leinster, 12.55pm; Cardiff v Munster, 3pm; Scarlets v Ospreys, 4.45pm; Edinburgh v Dragons, 7pm; Ulster v Connacht, 7.20pm - all Premier Sports. Rugby Championship, Argentina v South Africa - Sky Sports Arena, 8pm.

Tomorrow

CRICKET Women's One-Day, England v India - Sky Sports Cricket, 10.30am.

FOOTBALL Premier League, Brentford v Arsenal - Sky Sports Main Event, 11.30am; Everton v West Ham - Sky Sports Main Event, Sky Sports Premier League, 2.05pm.

Women's Super League, Aston Villa v Manchester City - BBC Two, 12.15pm; Liverpool v Chelsea - Sky Sports Main Event, 4.45pm. Scottish Premiership, St Mirren v Celtic - Sky Sports Football, 11.30am. Ligue 1, Lyon v Paris Saint-Germain - BT Sport 2, 7.30pm. La Liga, Atletico Madrid v Real Madrid - ITV4 & Premier Sports 2, 7.30pm. Serie A, AC Milan v Napoli - BT Sport 1, 7.45pm. MLS, DC United v Inter Miami - Sky Sports Football, 10pm.

GOLF Italian Open - Sky Sports Golf, 12.30pm.

LPGA AmazingCrcle Portland Classic - Sky Sports Golf, 8pm.

Fortinet Championship - Sky Sports Golf, 11pm.

MOTORCYCLING Grand Prix of Aragon - BT Sport 2, 8am.

RUGBY LEAGUE Women's Super League Grand final, York City Knights v Leeds Rhinos - Sky Sports Arena, Sky Sports Mix, 3pm. Championship, Halifax Panthers v York City Knights - Premier Sports 1, 5pm.

RUGBY UNION Premiership, Worcester Warriors v Exeter Chiefs - BT Sport 1, 2pm.

Racecards

Ayr Jackpot Card

Marlborough	3.40 - Khanjar
1.20 - Koy Koy	4.15 - Loyal Touch
1.55 - Phantom Flight	4.45 - Judgment Call
2.30 - Dusky Lord	5.20 - Wor Willie

Going: Good-good to soft in places
TV: ITV4 1.20, 1.55, 2.30, 3.05 & 3.40 / Racing TV
Draw: A middle to high draw is an advantage in sprint races, low numbers favoured on the round course.
Blinkers: V Visor | E Eyeshield | T Tongue Strap | P Cheekpieces

1.20 Virgin Bet Handicap (2) 1m E15,462

1.398 Revich [V](2) (CD) R Spencer 9 9 13 **D Tudhope 2**

2.216 What's The Story [P](2) (C)(D) K Dalgleish 9 9 13 **C Rodriguez 12**

3.322 Redarna [P](42) (CD)(C) D Sayer 9 9 12 **JP Sullivan 5**

4.257 On A Session (14) D & N Barron 6 9 11 **G Lee 6**

5.173 Koy Koy [H](29) (D) Boughy 3 9 9 **J Crowley 7**

6.239 Persuasion (2) D & N Barron 5 9 9 **K Stott 11**

7.130 Dutch Decoy (14) C & M Johnston 5 9 8 **O Stammers 3**

8.072 Gweedore (31) (CD)(C) K Scott 5 9 6 **J Hart 13**

9.065 Il Bandito [P](22) James Horton 4 9 6 **P J McDonald 10**

10.750 Seasett (106) D Fellowes 4 9 5 **Rossa Ryan 1**

11.602 Dirtyoldtown (9) G Tue 3 9 3 **J Mitchell 3**

12.56 Misty Ayr (15) K Dalgleish 3 9 2 **P Mulrennan 14**

13.058 Eldrikjones (35) R Fell 3 9 2 **C Lee 1**

14.376 Blenheim Boy (19) R Fahey 3 9 1 **Oisin Orr 4**

S.P. f'cast: 7-2 Koy Koy, 6-1 Dirtyoldtown, 7-1 What's The Story, 8-1 Redarna, 10-1 Persuasion, On A Session, 12-1 Others.

L55 Virgin Bet Doonside Cup Stakes (Listed) (1) 1m 2f £28,355

1.370 Chichester [V](2) (CD) K Dalgleish 5 9 5 **J Crowley 11**

2.373 Euchen Glen (14) (CD)(C) (D) (B) J Goldie 9 9 5 **P Mulrennan 3**

3.710 Forza Orta (22) K Ryan 4 9 5 **T Eaves 1**

4.833 Marie's Diamond (14) C R Fell 6 9 5 **J Hart 9**

5.143 Royal Champion (21) D R Varian 4 9 5 **J Mitchell 6**

6.35 Stormy Antarctic [T](21) D E Walker 9 9 5 **G Downing 5**

7.455 Dark Moon Rising (56) K Ryan 3 9 0 **K Stott 10**

8.1 Good Show (17) K Dalgleish 3 9 0 **DOUBTFUL 2**

9.78 Herman The German [P](17) J Goldie 3 9 0 **Shannon Watts 7**

10.131 Phantom Flight (28) (D) James Horton 3 9 0 **P J McDonald 8**

11.69 Squire Street [V](17) J Goldie 3 9 0 **Amie Waugh 12**

12.40- Timeless Soul (23) D O'Meara 4 9 0 **D Tudhope 4**

S.P. f'cast: 6-4 Phantom Flight, 3-1 Royal Champion, 6-1 Euchen Glen, 8-1 Marie's Diamond, Stormy Antarctic, 10-1 Others.

2.30 Virgin Bet Ayr Silver Cup Handicap (2) 6f £30,924

1.059 Rathbone [P](22) (D) K Ryan 6 9 12 **O McSweeney 5**

2.443 Hyperfocus [P](6) (D) T Easterby 8 9 12 **J Sullivan 23**

3.552 Abolish [P](15) I Jardine 6 9 11 **A Mullen 11**

4.030 Dusky Lord [P](6) (D) R Varian 4 9 11 **J Mitchell 10**

5.972 Emperor Spirit [P](22) (D) Watson 4 9 11 **Rossa Ryan 1**

6.445 Strike Ted [T](2) (D) R Fahey 4 9 11 **Mark Winn 7**

7.510 Jump The Gun [P](14) (C) I Jardine 5 9 11 **P Mulrennan 25**

8.923 Aplomb (80) (D) J Chapple-Hyam 6 9 10 **K Stott 3**

9.709 Zargun (6) S Dixon 7 9 10 **D Swift 24**

2016 Snash [P](35) (CD)(D) T Easterby 4 9 10 **D Allan 8**

11233 Edward Cornelius [H](27) K Dalgleish 3 9 9 **C Rodriguez 20**

12560 Aberama Gold [V](23) (CD)(D) K Dalgleish 5 9 9 **J Watson 22**

13425 Full Authority [T](82) (D) J Chapple-Hyam 5 9 9 **O Stammers 3**

14381 Lovely Breeze [V](11) (D) H Palmer 4 9 9 (Sex) **C Lee 2**

15321 Mark's Choice [V](18) (C)(D) A Keatley 6 9 9 (Sex) **Ryan Sexton 5**

16515 Devil's Angel (27) (D) J O'Keefe 6 9 8 **P J McDonald 9**

17469 Fortarmour (2) (D) B Haslam 6 9 8 **G Lee 17**

18326 Good Earth (22) (D) M Herrington 5 9 8 **T Eaves 4**

19434 Bernardo O'Reilly (22) (D) R Spencer 8 9 8 **D Tudhope 5**

20001 Vintage Clarettes (16) (C) R Fahey 3 9 8 (Sex) **Oisin Orr 18**

21164 Roman Dragon (28) (D) (B) H Palmer 3 9 7 **J Crowley 16**

22763 Ava Go Joe [P](59) (D) T Easterby 4 9 4 **D Fentiman 14**

23724 Asadjumeirah [P](22) (D) A Brittain 4 9 4 **C Hardie 6**

24497 Woven (49) M Dods 9 9 4 **C Beasley 13**

25820 Oso Rapido (4) R Fell 5 9 3 **J Hart 2**

26052 S.P. f'cast: 8-1 Snash, 10-1 Dusky Lord, 12-1 Emperor Spirit, Lovely Breeze, Asadjumeirah, Abolish, 14-1 Others.

3.05 Remy Uomo EBF Nursery (3) 2y0 1m £7,731

1.331 Loyal Touch (29) (D) C & M Johnston 9 9 **J Hart 5**

2.417 Feel The Need (31) (D) C O'Meara 9 8 **D Tudhope 9**

3.211 Pol Roger (22) (D) M Dods 9 8 **C Beasley 10**

4.431 Animate (29) S & E Crisford 9 6 **J Mitchell 2**

5.160 Vince Le Prince [T](30) T Easterby 9 2 **D Allan 8**

6.421 Have Secret (41) R Fahey 9 1 **Oisin Orr 4**

7.312 Rievalux Raver [P](18) (D) R Fell 8 13 **B Curtis 1**

8.051 Metal Merchant (102) M Channon 8 12 **Rossa Ryan 11**

9.334 Monty Tan [K] (15) K R Burke 8 9 **C Lee 7**

10.187 Disputed (23) A Keatley 8 9 **G Lee 13**

11.636 Roll It In Glitter (39) M & D Easterby 8 8 **S Gray 12**

12.455 Rorry The Cat (14) K Dalgleish 8 2 **A Mullen 6**

13.366 Humble Spark (54) J Goldie 8 2 **Amie Waugh 5**

14.505 Minnettonka (14) D R Bannon 9 2 **Rossa Ryan 3**

15.119 Poetic Union [T](16) D E Walker 9 2 **P J McDonald 10**

16.221 Star Shield (14) D N Barron 9 2 **T Eaves 8**

17.302 Star Child [P](21) (C) D Fellowes 9 4 9 **Oisin Orr 13**

18.324 StarShield [P](21) (C) D O'Meara 9 5 (Sex) **Rossi Ryan 13**

19.415 Documenting (14) K Frost 9 5 **J Mitchell 24**

20.402 Vroomerhand [V](21) (D) C O'Meara 8 9 12 **Oisin Orr 21**

21.415 Sunbeam [V](21) (D) C M Johnston 9 4 9 **J Hart 13**

22.131 Height Of Abraham (29) K Dalgleish 4 9 5 **S Gray 14**

23.145 Glasses Up (14) C R Smith 9 7 2 **D Allan 4**

24.141 Fairmac [B](21) (D) R M Smith 9 8 11 **P J McDonald 22**

25.008 Ammandale (12) (CD) J Goldie 4 8 11 **Amie Waugh 5**

26.008 S.P. f'cast: 5-1 Wor Willie, 11-2 El Picador, 6-1 Polyphonic, 7-1

27.008 Stride Ted [T](2) (D) R K Burke 3 8 12 **C Lee 20**

28.008 305into Tinto (28) (D) M Dods 6 8 11 **Mark Winn 7**

Exclusive interview 'The time I made champion Federer cry'

Sue Barker interviewed the Swiss after each of his eight Wimbledon titles but the first in 2003 was particularly raw

By Simon Briggs
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

Few people had a better view of Roger Federer's eight Wimbledon titles than Sue Barker, the BBC presenter who hosted the presentation ceremony every time he lifted the trophy on Centre Court.

Of those interviews, Barker has no hesitation in nominating the first – from way back in 2003 – as the one that sticks in the memory. Largely because Federer, who announced his impending retirement this week, is always reminding her of it.

"He always said to me, 'You made me cry' – but I didn't!" Barker protests, with a chuckle. "I just asked him about his support back home, and it got to him. But then, I have a habit of making people cry, so he's not the only one."

Federer's victory over Australia's Mark Philippoussis in 2003 was the key moment in his evolution from talented prospect to serial champion. His first slam title boosted his self-belief to the point where he landed 15 more majors over the next seven years.

In the video of the on-court interview, you can see Federer sporting a ponytail and the faintest of fuzzy goatees. His English is less fluent than it would later become, and his carriage is less poised. But there is something endearing about his youthful gaucheness.

To Barker's first remark – "Roger Federer, Wimbledon champion; you had better get used to that" – Federer replied: "It's a dream come true. I was always joking around when I was a boy that I was going to win this and now I have it." He then thrust the silver cup high above his head in exultation.

Barker would become used to the Swiss's increasingly suave interview style over the years. For this opening exchange, though, she did not know what to expect.



Emotional moment: Sue Barker interviews Roger Federer after his victory over Mark Philippoussis in 2003 secured a first Wimbledon title

"The job of walking on that court with a microphone is not easy," Barker says. "They say, 'Interview the loser', but I've lost big matches, and the last thing you want is someone sticking a microphone in your face. The emotions are so raw for everyone."

"Even with Andy [Murray] when he won the title in 2013, his eyes were almost glazed. He probably wouldn't remember what he said. You can see what winning that tour-

nament does to people, that first time. It's just special. Pete Sampras was also incredibly emotional the first time he did it [although there were no interviews, no speeches and no microphones on Centre Court in 1993].

"As the interviewer, it's about trying to find some words from them that sum up the occasion. Then you just want to let them get on and enjoy the day. You want the crowd to be a part of it and to hear from the

players and to have a bit of fun. Roger was always lovely. As soon as you started talking about his family, he became a different person."

"That day in 2003 I asked him, 'What's the support been like at home?' and he just broke down and cried. And that was the end of the interview. I said, 'Congratulations, Roger Federer', and that was it."

"With the tears, sometimes being able to speak when you've won your first Wimbledon is difficult. I won-

Misery for Murray as GB go out

By Jeremy Wilson in Glasgow

Judy Murray had shed a tear of joy. Andy Murray performed a celebratory jig that really ought to be beyond someone with a metal hip. Dan Evans sprinted the length of the Emirates Arena high-fiving fans. But

Great Britain were ultimately still dumped out of the Davis Cup, with Murray unable to inspire victory in front of a home Scottish crowd for the second time in three deeply disappointing nights.

After a lam finish to Wednesday's tie against the United States, when Murray and Joe Salisbury were beaten 2-1 in the decisive doubles, captain Leon Smith had kept faith with the same pair for what promised to be a winner-takes-all final rubber against the Netherlands.

That meant again leaving out Neal Skupski, ranked the third best doubles player in the world, in favour of Salisbury – fresh from his US Open triumph – alongside Mur-

ray, who had played just two doubles matches in three years before arriving in Glasgow this week.

Murray and Salisbury broke serve in the opening game against Wesley Koolhof and Matwe Middelkoop but they could not capitalise and dropped serve before losing the first set tie-break without winning a point.

The second set went with serve and, in what was a tense tie-break, Murray did dra-

Losing out: Andy Murray feels the pressure

matically help Britain first save a match point and then draw level with an excellent double volley. It was the catalyst for wild celebrations, but their big chance came and went in the seventh game of the deciding third set when Murray missed a usually routine forehand on the first of two break points. Koolhof and Middelkoop were then ruthless, romping

through the next two games without losing a point to clinch a 7-6, 6-3 victory and the Netherlands' place in the last eight of the Davis Cup for the first time since 2005.

Meanwhile, the best collective group of British men's players for several decades will not be in Malaga for the finals in November, regardless of what happens tomorrow against Kazakhstan.

Evans had earlier put Britain into the lead with a 6-4, 6-4 win against Tallon Griekspoor. Cameron Norrie was then favourite to complete a 2-0 win but Botic van de Zandschulp, having reached the fourth round at Wimbledon back in June, dispatched the world No8 6-4, 6-2.